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THE ADVENTURES  
OF  
HUCKLEBERRY FINN

SUPPLEMENTARY READER

STANDARD IX

Price: Rs. 1-10

1974



Price Rs. 1-20

THE ADVENTURES  
OF  
HUCKLEBERRY FINN  
IN THE  
TOMBS OF THE  
MOUNTAINS

STANDARD IX

1874



THE ADVENTURES  
OF  
HUCKLEBERRY FINN

SUPPLEMENTARY READER

STANDARD IX

MARK TWAIN

*(abridged and simplified)*

Price Rs. 1.10 .

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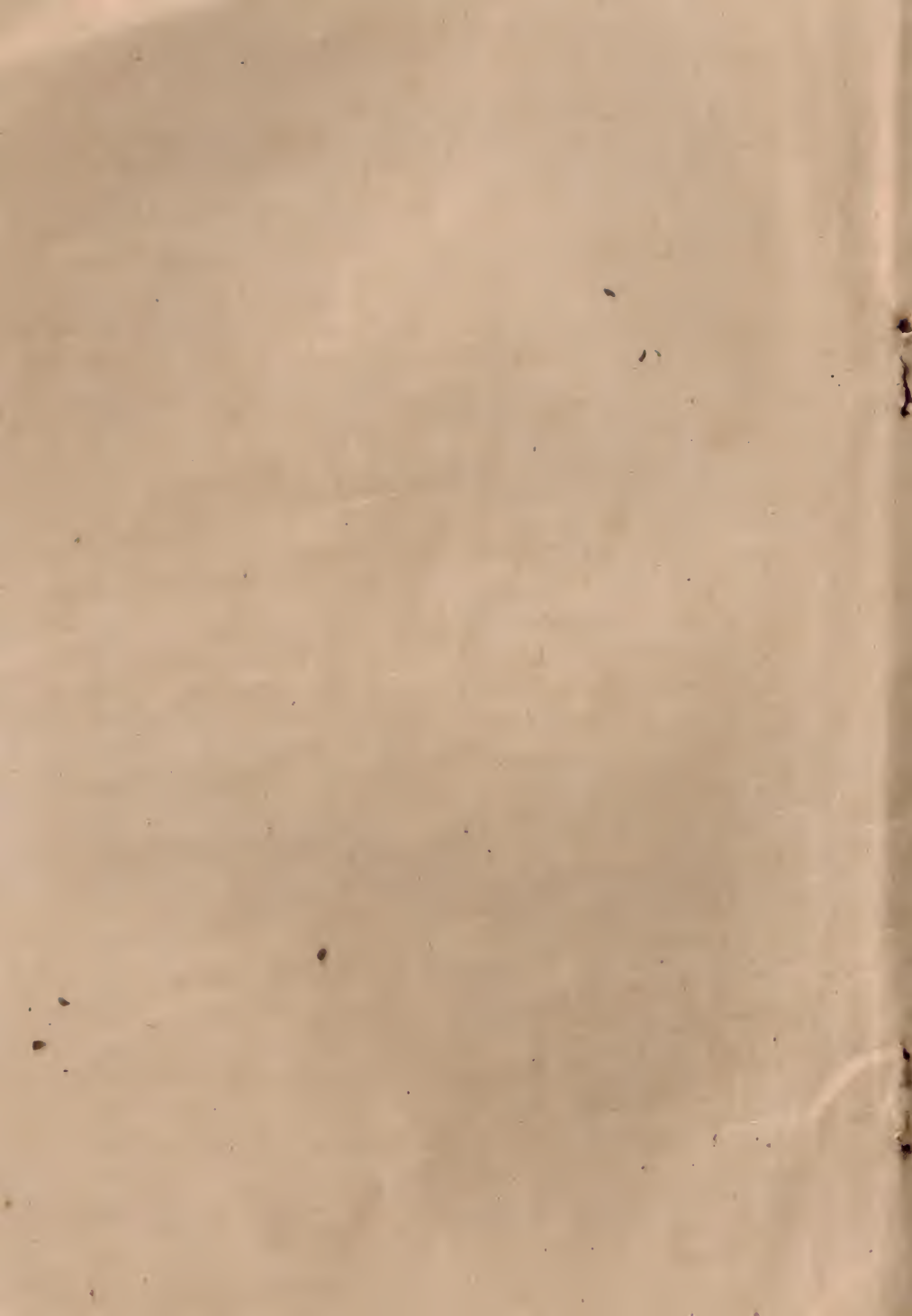


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## NOTE TO THE TEACHER

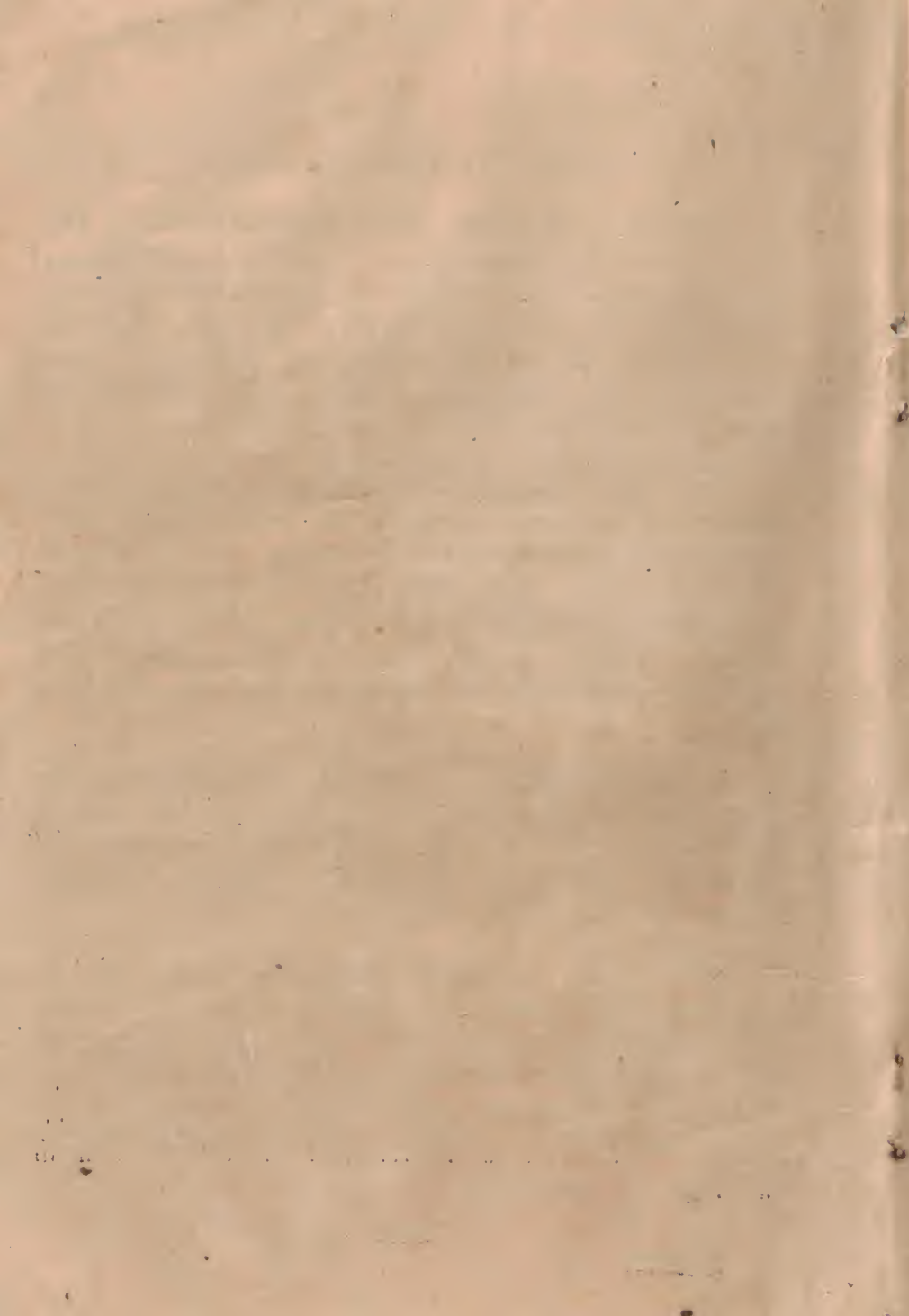
This is a simplified version of Mark Twain's "The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn." As far as possible only structures taught upto Standard VIII and in the first half of Standard IX have been used in this book. Care has been taken to see that not many new vocabulary items are introduced. Meanings of some of the difficult and unfamiliar words have been given in the glossary.

The main objective in teaching a Supplementary Reader is to develop in the pupils the habit of rapid silent reading with comprehension—the type of reading useful to them in later life. It is better to avoid reading this book paragraph by paragraph and explaining difficult words and phrases. Instead, the meanings of difficult words can be explained situationally or otherwise before each chapter is read.

The teacher can give a suitable introduction to the chapter and tell the pupils the beginning of the story or incident to kindle the pupils' interest in the story and then ask them to read the rest of it silently. Reading by pupils can be done in the class or at home.

After silent reading by pupils the teacher has to encourage and test the pupils' understanding by asking them a few comprehension questions. The questions given at the end of each chapter may be helpful. Additional questions, if necessary, may also be asked to test full comprehension. Pupils can be asked to answer some of these questions in writing.





## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION TO THE STORY

This book deals with the adventures of Huckleberry Finn who longed to discover the wonderful world on and around the great Mississippi, one of the longest rivers in North America. His journey down the river aboard a raft was the biggest adventure of his life.

Huckleberry Finn was a young boy. His father was a drunkard who had no time to look after his son. So Huck grew up idle, lawless and carefree. He was dreaded by the mothers of the village, and they did not want their sons to be Huck's friends. But the boys thought that he was a great hero. He was free to go about as he pleased, sleep on door-steps or in empty barrels, fish or swim whenever he liked, and above all he did not have to attend school or go to church on Sundays. He never had to wash or put on clean clothes. No one ever told him, "Huckleberry, don't do it." The boys of St. Petersburg thought that Huck had everything that helped to make life wonderful.

Huck's friend, Tom Sawyer, on the other hand was a well-brought up boy, loved by his Aunt Polly. He had read a lot of books and he imagined himself to be the hero of some of the adventure stories. Tom was a boy of great courage. He was always truthful. He planned adventures and was always the leader of his gang. It was during one of these adventures that Huck and he discovered a cave in a valley. They found a treasure-box and a couple of guns inside the cave. They carried this box into a haunted house and filled their bags with money. The sum amounted to a little over twelve thousand dollars. The boys' find caused great excitement in the village of St. Petersburg. Huck and Tom were admired and stared at by the people of the village.

## HUCK FEELS LONELY

Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn found the money that the robbers had hidden in the cave. They got six thousand dollars each. That made them rich. They gave the money to Judge Thatcher and got a dollar a day as interest.

There was a widow, Mrs. Douglas, who took an interest in Huck. She wanted to civilize him. But he was the kind of boy who never liked anything regular and decent. He could not stand her ways. When the widow rang the bell for supper he had to come on time. Then he could not start eating but had to wait for the widow to say her prayers. After supper she got out a book and read it out to Huck. But Huck was not interested in those stories. He wanted to smoke. But the widow would not allow him. She said it was a bad habit. But at the same time she took snuff and that was all right for her.

Widow Douglas's sister, Miss Watson, a skinny old maid with big spectacles, had just come to live with her. She was asked to look after Huck, and she tried to teach him. She started saying: "Don't put your feet up there, Huckleberry; sit up straight; don't gape; why don't you try to behave?..." She kept pecking at him till he got tired of it.

One day Huck went to his room with a candle when everybody had gone to bed. He sat down by the window and tried to think of something cheerful but it was no use. He felt so lonely that he wished he was dead.

The stars were shining and the leaves were rustling in the woods. The wind was trying to whisper something. Away out in the woods there was a sound that ghosts usually make. Huck felt so lonely and disheartened that he wished he had some company. Soon a spider went crawling up Huck's shoulder. He flipped it off and it fell



on the candle. Before he could do anything the creature was all burnt. He thought that it was a bad sign and that it would bring him bad luck. He tied up a little lock of his hair with a thread to keep witches away.

After a long time he heard the clock in the town go 'boom-boom-boom' twelve times. Then he heard a twig snap. He listened and could hear a me-yow, me-yow. Huck put out the light and scrambled out of the window on to the shed. Then he slipped down to the ground and crawled in amongst the trees.

There was Tom Sawyer waiting in the dark!

## CHAPTER II

### TOM SAWYER'S GANG

Huck and Tom went tiptoeing among the trees to the end of the widow's garden. While they were going along, Huck fell over a root and made a noise. Miss Watson's big negro servant Jim got up from the kitchen door, stretched his neck out and called out. "Who's that?" The boys kept silent. He came down and stood right between Huck and Tom. They could have touched him. But they did not make any sound. Then Huck's ankle began to itch, but he could not scratch. Then his ear and next his back began to itch. He wanted to scratch. And he felt he would die if he did not scratch.

Jim said, "Say, who're you? Where're you? I'm going to sit down here and listen to you."

And Jim sat down on the ground between Tom and Huck. He leaned his back against a tree and stretched his legs out till one of them almost touched Huck's. Then

Huck's body started itching in a thousand places. He could not stand it any longer. He bit his teeth hard. But then he heard Jim snoring.

Tom made a little noise which was a signal to Huck to creep away on their hands and knees. They moved ten feet off. Tom wanted to go to the kitchen and get some candles. Huck was afraid that Jim might wake up and make a disturbance. So they slid in there and got three candles. Tom laid a five-cent piece on the table and crawled to where Jim was and took Jim's hat off his head and hung it on a branch right over him. Jim stirred a little but he did not wake. Tom and Huck went away to a nearby hill.

For the next few days Jim talked a great deal about witches in the dark. Negroes came from far and wide to hear Jim's stories. He said the witches bewitched him and rode him all over the State and set him under the trees and hung his hat on a branch. They listened to these tales and gasped in wonder. Jim always kept that five-cent piece on a string around his neck and said it was a chain the devil had given him with his own hands. Jim claimed that he would cure anybody with it and fetch witches whenever he wanted to. X

Tom and Huck climbed to the edge of the hill-top. The stars over them were sparkling. There was the river Mississippi not far away. They came down the hill and found their friends Jo Harper and Ben Rogers and a few more waiting for them. All of them went two and a half miles down the river in a skiff and came to the shore. They went to a clump of bushes and there Tom made everybody swear to keep everything a secret. In the thickest part of the bushes he showed them a hole. They lit the candles and crawled along on their hands and knees. After about two hundred yards the cave opened up. They went along a narrow passage and got into a kind of room, all damp and cold. There they stopped and Tom said, "Now we'll form a band of robbers and call it 'Tom Sawyer's gang'. Those who want to join have to take an oath and write their names in blood."

Everyone agreed to this. Tom took out a sheet of paper on which he had written the oath and read it. It said that every boy should stick to the band and never tell any of its secrets. If anybody who belonged to the band told its secrets he would have his throat cut. Everybody said that it was a wonderful oath and asked Tom if he got it out of his own head. He said some of it was his but the rest was out of pirate books and robber books.

Some suggested that it would be good to kill the families of boys who told the secrets. "It's a good idea", said Tom. Then Ben Rogers said, "Here's Huck Finn, he hasn't got a family. What're you going to do about him?"

Tom asked, "Well, hasn't he got a father?"

"Yes, he has got a father. But you can't find him these days. He used to lie drunk with the hogs in the tanyard, but he hasn't been in these parts for a year or more!"

Then Huck said that if his father was not available they could kill Miss Watson. Everybody said, "Oh, she'll do, she'll do. That's all right. Huck can come in." And then they all stuck a pin in their fingers to get blood and made marks on the paper. Then Ben Rogers asked, "What's the line of business of this gang?", and Tom said, "Nothing but robbery and murder. We are highwaymen. We stop stage-coaches and carriages on the road, with masks on, and kill the people and take their watches and money."

"Must we always kill people?"

"Oh, certainly. Except some that we bring here to the cave and keep till they are ransomed."

They had a long discussion on the word ransom because nobody knew what it actually meant. They had only seen the word in books.



While the discussion was going on Little Tommy Barnes fell asleep. When they woke him up he was scared and he cried. He wanted to go home, and did not want to be a robber.

They decided to go home. They agreed to get together on another convenient day as soon as possible. Tom Sawyer was elected "First Captain" and Jo Harper 'Second Captain' of the gang. Then they went home.

Huck climbed up the shed and crept into his window just before daybreak. His clothes were all soiled and greasy.

### CHAPTER III

#### THE ATTACK

Tom Sawyer's Gang played robbers now and then for about a month. They did not rob anybody, or kill any people. They just pretended. What they did was to charge down on hog-drovers and women in carts taking vegetables to market. But they never hurt any of them. They went to the cave and enjoyed talking about what they had done and the number of people they had 'killed'. But Huck thought it was a waste of time.

One day Tom said he had got secret news through his spies that a group of Spanish merchants and rich Arabs were going to camp in Cave Hollow with two hundred elephants, six hundred camels and over a thousand mules all loaded with diamonds, and that they had only four hundred soldiers. So, Tom said, they would lie in ambush, kill the lot and steal the things. Tom wanted them to get their swords and guns ready. But they had only laths and broomsticks!

Huck joined them only because he wanted to see the camels and elephants. The gang lay in wait. When they got the signal they rushed out of the woods and down the hill. But there were no Spaniards, no Arabs, no camels and no elephants. It was a Sunday-school picnic. There were only children from primary classes. Tom Sawyer's Gang chased the children up Cave Hollow. But they only got some jam and cakes and a rag-doll and a hymn-book. Huck did not see any diamonds, and told Tom so. But Tom said he would understand the whole thing if he read a book called 'Don Quixote.' All the elephants and camels and treasure had been turned into a Sunday-school by some magicians who were their enemies. "A magician," Tom said, "could call up a lot of genies and they would make you look like nothing. They are as tall as a tree and as big as a church."

"But how can you get them?", Huck asked. And Tom said, "If you rub an old tin lamp or an iron ring, the genies come tearing in with thunder and lightning and smoke. And they will do what they are asked to do. They belong to the person who rubs the lamp or the ring. If you ask them to build a palace out of diamonds and to fetch an Emperor's daughter from China they have got to do it before the sun rises next morning."

Huck did not have any belief in the powers of the genies and their obedience. But Tom said he was a blockhead. So Huck thought over this for three days. He went out into the woods with an old tin lamp and an iron ring and rubbed and rubbed, but no genies came. Then he realised that all that stuff was one of Tom Sawyer's lies. Poor Huck did not know that Tom's genies and tin lamps were ideas he had got from books.

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## CHAPTER IV

### HUCK MEETS HIS FATHER

Huck's father had not been seen for more than a year. Huck was happy because he did not want to see him any more. The old man used to be drunk most of the time. Whenever he was sober he used to beat Huck ; and Huck ran to the woods when he was around. People said that they had found Huck's father drowned in the river because the body they had seen was his size, and ragged, and had long hair. They said he had been floating on his back in the water and they had taken him out and buried him on the bank. But Huck knew that a drowned man would not float on his back but on his face. So he guessed that the drowned man was not his father but a woman dressed up in a man's clothes. Huck was afraid that the old man would turn up again.

One night Huck lit his candle and went up to his room—and there he saw his father sitting in a chair. Huck was always scared of him. His father was almost fifty. His hair was long, tangled and greasy ; it hung down over his face, and you could see his eyes shining through. It was all black. Not a single hair was grey. His long whiskers were black too. Only very little of his face could be seen and that was white, a fish-belly white. His clothes were just rags. He had one ankle resting on the other knee. Two of his toes stuck out through his boot. His hat was lying on the floor, an old black slouch-hat with the top caved in like a lid.

Huck sat looking at him and he sat there looking at Huck with his chair tilted back a little. The window was up. It was clear that his father had climbed in. He kept on looking at Huck for some time and then said in a very contemptuous tone:

“ Starchy clothes ! You look very clean ! You're educated too ! they say you can read and write ! You stop going to school, do you hear ? Your mother couldn't read



or write before she died. None of the family could. You think you're better than your father now because he can't read and write. I am not the man to stand this. Come on, let me hear you read."

Huck took up a book and began to read something about General Washington and the wars. When he had read for about half a minute his father grabbed the book from him and threw it away and said, "So you can do it! I had my doubts when they told me. Now, if I catch you near that school I'll tan your hide. Now, they say you're rich. How's that?"

"They lie, that's how."

"I heard about it away down the river. You get me that money tomorrow."

"I haven't got any money."

"It's a lie. Judge Thatcher has got it. You get it. I want it. Say, how much have you got in your pocket?"

Huck had a dollar in his pocket and he had to shell it out. His father took it and said that he was going down town to get some drink.

Next day Huck's father was drunk. He went to Judge Thatcher's and tried to make him give up Huck's share of the money. Judge Thatcher and Widow Douglas went to court to ask for one of them to be Huck's guardian, but the new judge said that courts should not interfere and separate families if they could help it.

That pleased the old man. He was happy that he had control over his son. Huck borrowed money from Judge Thatcher and his father took it and got drunk and went about the town. The next day he was brought before the court and was jailed for a week.

When Huck's father was released the new judge took him to his own house and dressed him in clean clothes and gave him breakfast, lunch and supper with the family.

After supper the judge tried to reform him and talked to him about temperance and such things till the old man cried and said that he was going to turn over a new leaf and become a good man. The old man signed a pledge not to drink any more. Then he was given a beautiful room to sleep in.

But in the night he got very thirsty and climbed out by the porch roof. He sold his new coat for a jug of drink and climbed back into his room. Before daybreak he again crawled out and rolled off the porch and broke his arm in two places. When somebody found him after sunset he was almost frozen to death.

## CHAPTER V

### THE ESCAPE

One day in spring Huck's father caught him and took him up the river about three miles in a skiff and crossed over to the Illinois shore. There were no houses, but only an old log-hut. They lived in that old cabin. Whenever the old man went out he locked the door. Huck never got a chance to run off. Huck's father had an old gun stolen from somewhere. They lived on fish and game. He used to go down to the shore and get drunk and have a good time. He was always beating Huck. Widow Douglas wanted to find Huck, and sent a man to bring him back. He was met by Huck's father who drove him off with the gun.

Huck was a lazy boy and was quite happy without books and study, and spent the time smoking and fishing. He did not want to go back to Widow Douglas any more though his father did not give him good clothes. He did not want to be 'civilized' by her.

One day Huck's father unlocked the door and sent him out to get some fish for breakfast. The river had begun to rise and it was bringing down logs and pieces of log rafts. Huck wanted to catch some logs and sell them to the woodyards and the sawmill. He went along the bank with one eye out for his father and the other on the logs. Suddenly he saw a canoe about fourteen feet long, floating down the river. As soon as he saw it he jumped into the water, swam to the canoe and pulled it ashore. His father was not in sight. He hid the canoe behind a clump of trees because he wanted to run off and go down the river about fifty miles and camp somewhere for good.

Then Huck heard his father coming. His father had not seen what he had done. At last when he saw Huck he asked him how he had got drenched. Huck told him that he had fallen in the river while catching fish. Huck had got five catfish, so they went home. When they lay down after breakfast Huck was thinking of his plans to run away. After lunch Huck's father locked Huck in and took the skiff and started off to town. Huck thought that he would not come back that night. He took his saw and started working on the walls of the cabin in order to get out. Before his father had reached the other side of the river Huck got out of the cabin.

Huck loaded up the canoe with a piece of bacon, his father's whisky jug, some coffee, sugar, his old saw, two blankets, fishing lines, matches and his gun. Then he fixed the pieces of log he had sawn, back in their places and put two rocks against them to hold them there. He was careful to see that he had left no tracks behind. He then took his gun, went into the woods, shot a deer and brought it to the cabin. He entered the cabin by smashing the door with his axe and laid the deer on the dirty floor. He cut the deer's throat to make it bleed. Then he pulled out some of his own hair and stuck it on the axe with the blood of the deer. He threw the axe into the corner. He then filled an old sack with stones and dragged it into the river



for people to see that something had been dragged along the ground. The sack sank in the river. Then he thought of something else. He got his bag of flour, ripped a hole in its bottom with the saw and carried it a hundred yards across the grass towards the lake on the eastern side of the house. There was a creek leading out of the lake but it did not go to the river. The flour left a track all the way. Then he tied up the rip in the flour sack with a string and went to the canoe again.

Huck said to himself, "They will follow the track of stones and drag the river for my dead body. And they will follow the flour track to the lake to find the robbers who killed me. They will soon get tired and won't bother any more about me. Jackson's Island is a good place for me. Nobody who knows me will ever come there."

Huck's canoe floated down the river and he dropped off to sleep. After about two and a half miles he woke up and could hear people talking at the jetty. It was Jackson's Island. The town was three miles away. Huck could see four or five lights twinkling. Soon the swift current took him to the Illinois shore. He ran the canoe into a deep dent in the bank. Then he went into the woods and lay down for a nap.

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## CHAPTER VI

### MEETING JIM

When Huck woke up the sun was shining through the trees. As he lay in the cool shade he heard a deep sound of 'boom' up the river. Soon he heard it again. He saw the ferry-boat coming. White smoke went up from its side. He knew that people in the boat were firing a cannon over the water trying to make his dead body come to the top. Then he saw a double loaf of bread floating on the water. There was a belief that if you put quicksilver in loaves of bread and floated them on the water, they would stop right over a drowned body. The double loaf came along, but he could not catch it. Then he saw another one. He caught it with a long stick. He shook out the quicksilver and started munching the bread. He lit a pipe and had a good smoke and watched the ferry-boat. When the boat came near he hid behind a log on the bank and peeped through. He could see his father, Judge Thatcher, Tom Sawyer, Aunt Polly, Tom's cousins Sid and Mary, and many more on the boat. Everybody was talking about the murder. The boat floated on and he did not hear the boom of the cannon any more.

Huck thought that they would not come hunting for him again. He took the things out of the canoe and put up a tent with his blankets. He caught a catfish, cut it open with his saw and started a camp-fire to cook it. After dinner he sat on the bank and listened to the current passing by and counted the stars and the drift-logs and rafts. Then he went to bed.

And thus passed three days and three nights. After that he went exploring the island. He found plenty of strawberries and green summer-grapes. All of a sudden he stepped on the ashes of a camp-fire still burning. His heart jumped up. He did not wait for a further look at it but went back on tiptoe as fast as he could. If he saw a stump, he took it for a man. If he stepped on a stick and

broke it, he thought somebody was following him. He reached his camp terribly frightened. He could not live without finding out who the other person on the island was. He climbed up a tree to look around but saw no one. So he got down. When it was dark he made the canoe drift quietly down to the foot of the island.

It was daybreak. Huck took his gun and went towards the place where he had seen the camp-fire. He moved forward very cautiously and found a man on the ground. He had a blanket around his head. Huck sat behind a bush about six feet away and kept his eyes on him. Soon the man threw off his blanket and stretched himself, and it was Miss Watson's Jim. Huck said, "Hullo, Jim!"

Jim jumped and stared at Huck. Then he knelt down and said, "Don't hurt me, don't! I have never done any harm to a ghost. I always liked dead people and I have done all I could for them. You go and get into the river again. Old Jim is always your friend."

Huck was lonely. He wanted a companion. So he made Jim understand that he was not a ghost, and that he was very glad to see his friend Jim.

Then Huck went to the canoe and fetched flour, bacon, coffee, sugar and a few tin cups. The Negro thought it was all done by witches. Then he said, "Look here, Huck, who was it that was killed if it wasn't you?" Huck told him the whole story, and asked Jim how he happened to come there. Jim said he had run away from Miss Watson, and narrated the story of his escape.

Miss Watson had treated him very cruelly. One day a slave trader came to her and offered her eight hundred dollars for Jim. Jim overheard this. So he did not wait. At once he left the place and hid in an old shop for the night. In the morning skiffs went by and he heard men and women saying how Huck's father said that Huck had been killed. When it became dark Jim saw a big raft



coming along and swam halfway across the river. He swam behind the raft and caught hold of it. Then he pulled himself up and lay on the raft. But when the raft reached the head of the island Jim saw a man with a lantern. So, he slid overboard and swam to the island.

The island was only three miles long and a quarter of a mile wide. Huck and Jim reached a place right in the middle of the island. It was a long steep hill about forty feet high. They got to the top of the hill with great difficulty. There they saw a big cave. It was so big that Jim could stand up straight in it. They hid their canoe and brought all their things to this cave.

Just then it started raining. It rained so heavily that they could hardly see the trees around them. The river went on rising. There was water all over the island. It was about four feet deep. Huck and Jim enjoyed going all over the island on the canoe winding in and out among the trees.

One night they caught a portion of a lumber raft, twelve feet by fifteen. Another night they saw a wooden house floating down the river. They climbed onto the house and came to a window. Through the window they could make out a bed and some clothes hanging against the wall. In the far corner there was a dead man. Jim saw his face and told Huck not to look at it. Huck collected some men's and women's clothes hanging on the wall and Jim got an old lantern, some sharp knives and an old blanket. These things they thought would come in handy. To their surprise they found eight dollars sewed in an old overcoat.

## CHAPTER VII

### HUCK IN DISGUISE

Next morning Jim suggested that Huck put on some old clothes and dress up like a girl and go to the town in the dark to find out what was going on. So Huck pulled up his trouser-legs to his knees and got into a shortened gown. Then he put a sun-bonnet on his head and tied it under his chin. After dusk he went in the canoe up the river to the town. Jim remained in the cave.

Huck started walking along the bank when he saw a light burning in a little cabin. There was a woman about forty years old knitting by a candle. Huck knocked at the door and mede up his mind not to forget that he was a girl.

"Come in!" said the woman, and Huck did.

"What might your name be?"

"Sarah Williams".

"Where do you live?"

"In Hookerville, seven miles below. I've walked all the way and I'm tired. My mother's sick and poor. I've come to tell my uncle Abner Moore about my mother's illness. He lives at the upper end of the town. Do you know him?"

"I don't know him. I've lived here for less than two weeks. You stay here for the night. Take off your bonnet."

"No, I'll rest a while and then go. I'm not afraid."

Then she said that her husband would be coming in an hour and a half. She asked Huck to wait till he came. And she started talking about her people. But soon she changed her topic to Huckleberry Finn, his father and Tom Sawyer. She had heard about Huck's murder. So she said.

"Who did it? Some believe that Huck's father did it himself. And some suspect the runaway Negro, Jim. There's a reward of three hundred dollars for Jim and two hundred for Huck's father. People think that Jim killed the boy to get his money because he ran off the very night Huck was killed."

Huck became uneasy when she started asking him more and more questions. He could not sit still. He picked up a needle from the table and tried to thread it. His hands shook and the woman smiled. Then she said, "What did you say your name was?"

"M. . . . . Mary Williams."

"I thought you said it was Sarah."

"Oh yes, I did. Sarah Mary Williams. Some call me Sarah, some call me Mary."

The woman kept on looking at Huck, and he felt quite uncomfortable. There were rats running about the room. So the old lady showed him a ball of lead and asked him to throw it at the rat. She brought back the ball of lead and said, "Keep the lead in your lap ready for the rats," and she threw it onto Huck's lap.

Huck clapped his legs together on the ball. Then the woman asked him,

"Come, now, what's your real name?"

Huck shook like a leaf. The woman thought that he was a runaway who had been treated badly. She told him that she would keep everything a secret. Huck started telling her a number of lies but was trapped by the clever woman. She said,

"You may fool men, but don't try to fool women. When you have to thread a needle hold the needle and poke the thread at it and not the other way. Only men do it that way. When a girl tries to catch anything in her lap she throws her knees apart. She will never clap them together.



I spotted you for a boy when you were threading that needle. I tried the other things just to make sure. Now you go. If you get into trouble send word to me, Mrs. Judith Lofties, and I'll do what I can to help you."

Huck went up the bank, jumped into the canoe and was off in a hurry. He took off his sun-bonnet. Then he went downstream a mile and a half. There he landed and went through the timber and up the ridge back to the cave. There he saw Jim fast asleep on the ground. Huck roused him and said, "Get up, Jim! There isn't a minute to lose. They're after us."

Jim was terribly scared and did not say a word. They put everything they had on the raft and tied their canoe to it. Then they got out the raft and glided along past the foot of the island.

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## CHAPTER VIII

### THE WRECK

The raft was moving pretty slow. At daybreak Huck and Jim tied the raft to a tree. They cut off some branches and covered the raft with them. All day long they hid themselves and watched other rafts and steamboats, some gliding easily down and some struggling up.

When it was dark Jim took some of the boards of the raft and built a snug wigwam. They rested inside the wigwam by day and journeyed at night. They caught fish and took a swim and sometimes lay on their backs looking up at the clear sky.

Every night they passed a few towns. Now and then Huck would slip ashore and buy a piece of bacon or some other food. At times he would quietly steal a chicken or a loaf of bread. They were never hungry.

On the fifth night a terrible storm broke out. The rain poured down in thick sheets. There was thunder and lightning. Huck and Jim crept into the wigwam and watched the fury of the storm. They could see a wrecked steamboat in a flash of lightning. They entered the wreck and soon climbed up the deck to the captain's door. Away down through the wall they saw a light and heard a frightened voice begging, "Oh, please don't, boys! I swear I'll never tell!" This was followed by a loud voice addressing someone as Jim Turner. Huck crept along on his hands and knees in the dark till he saw a man stretched out on the floor tied hand and foot. One man stood on each side, one with a lantern and the other with a pistol. They were threatening to shoot the man on the floor.

From their conversation Huck learnt their plan. It was to get away in a waiting boat with their loot and let the poor fellow drift in the wreck. They were sure the wreck would break up and the man would drown. This, they thought, was better than their killing him.

Huck got out quickly and whispered to Jim, "Quick, Jim! Here's a gang of murderers. Find their boat, or we'll be shut up in the wreck." Just then a door opened and one of the men tossed a bag of something into their boat. Then they went back to bring something more. As soon as the door slammed Huck and Jim jumped into the boat. They cut the rope and moved quickly down the river. It was pitch dark. This helped them to escape from the two men. From a distance Huck could see them looking around with their lanterns.

Now the storm grew worse. In one of the flashes of lightning Huck and Jim saw their raft and stopped it. They piled on the raft all the things in the boat and let it

float along. By the lights on the shore Huck knew that they had reached a village. He soon saw a ferry-boat with a lantern hanging from it.

Huck wanted to save the men in the wreck. He felt guilty about stealing their boat and leaving them to die in a wrecked ship. He thought how dreadful it was even for murderers to be in such a fix. So he left Jim on the raft and sailed to the ferry-boat. He invented a story and told the watchman about the unfortunate people in the wreck. He told it in such a convincing manner that the watchman believed him and set off in his boat to the wrecked ship.

As soon as the watchman was out of sight Huck got into his boat and drifted towards his raft. He could see it in the dark because of the light Jim had kept burning on it. By the time Huck reached it the sky was beginning to get a little grey in the east. So they headed for an island and hid their raft. They knew how unsafe it was for them to be out during the day. So they went to bed and slept.

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## CHAPTER IX

### JIM WANTS TO BE FREE

At night they journeyed down the river towards Cairo, where the Ohio river comes in. They planned to sell their raft, get on a steam-boat and go up the Ohio among the free States, where there was no slavery. Jim would then be safe. That would mean the end of their troubles.

But on the second night a thick fog came down and they had to look for a mooring. Huck got into the canoe and paddled to the shore. He tried to get the raft tied up but in the swift flowing current it went down the river with poor Jim on it. Huck shot out into the fog in his canoe



and his frightened cries of "Jim! Jim! Where are you?" echoed in the dark. In that still night all Huck could hear was the thump of his heart.

After about an hour Huck realised that he and Jim were drifting on different sides of an island. He went on for about five miles in the foggy night shouting out to Jim from time to time. At last he heard an answer a long way off. He followed the direction of the call and found his raft. He saw Jim on it. They were very happy to see each other again, and they narrated their adventures in the fog.

That day they were too tired to continue their journey. So they spent their time sorting out the things the gang had stolen from the wreck. There were boots, blankets, a lot of clothes, a spy-glass and tobacco. They were very happy.

They slept almost all day and started out at night. They talked about Cairo but they wondered whether they would know it if they happened to pass that way. Jim was anxious to reach Cairo; he said he would be a free man the minute he saw it, but if he missed it he would be in the slave country again. Every now and then he jumped up and said,

"There she is!"

But it wasn't Cairo. It was only some glow-worms far away and not a town.

The thought of being so close to freedom made Jim tremble and grow feverish all over. And Huck had the same feeling when it got into his head that Jim was going to be free. "Am I right in helping Jim to set free?" he wondered. This troubled his mind, and his conscience asked him:

"You knew Jim was running for his freedom and you could have taken him ashore and informed somebody. What did that poor Miss Watson do to you that you could see her slave go free right under your eyes and never say a

single word? Why did you treat her so meanly? Why, she tried to teach you how to read and have good manners, and she tried to be good to you every way she knew. And this is how you have shown her your gratitude!"

Huck felt so guilty and miserable that he wished he was dead. He fidgeted up and down the raft blaming himself. Every time Jim danced around and said "That's Cairo", it went through Huck like a shot.

While Huck talked to himself Jim talked aloud. Jim was saying that when he got to a free State he would save up enough money and buy the freedom of his wife, who was the slave to a farmer near Miss Watson's house; and then he and his wife would work to buy the freedom of their two children; and if their master would not sell them, they would go and steal them. Such talk almost froze Huck. He remembered the old saying, "Give a nigger an inch and he'll take an ell." His conscience worried more than ever and he said to himself. "It's not too late yet. I will go ashore at the first village and tell people that Jim is a runaway slave." And he felt easy and happy.

Then he heard Jim shouting. "We're safe! we're safe! That's good old Cairo at last. I know it." But Huck said he would take the canoe and go to see if it was Cairo. Jim jumped up and got the canoe ready, put his old coat in the bottom for Huck to sit on and gave him the paddle. When Huck shoved off, Jim said, I'll be shouting for joy and I'll say it is all on account of Huck. If it hadn't been for Huck I could never have become a free man. Jim will never forget you, Huck, the best friend old Jim ever had, the only white gentleman that ever kept his promise to old Jim."

Just then a skiff came along with two men in it with guns, and they stopped and Huck stopped and one of them asked.

"What's that?"

"A piece of raft."

"Any men on it?"

"Only one, Sir."

"There are five slaves run off tonight. Is your man white or black?"

"He's white."

"We'll go and see for ourselves."

"I wish you would because Pap is sick and so is Mam and my sister. Everybody goes away when I say this."

"Then your Pap has got small-pox. You know it, and you want to spread it all over."

And then he said, "We think your father is poor. We'll put a twenty dollar gold-piece on this board and you'll get it when it floats by. If you see any runaway slave catch him and you can make money by it."

"Yes, Sir. I won't let any runaway slave get away from me if I can help it," said Huck.

They went off and Huck got aboard the raft feeling bad for telling a lie. But if he had told the truth and given Jim up it would have been equally bad, he thought. He said to himself, "What's the use of learning to do right when it is troublesome to do right and when there's no trouble in doing wrong?" Huck decided to do whatever seemed best.

He went into the wigwam. Jim was not there. He was in the river ready to swim ashore. He came aboard and said, "Didn't you fool them, Huck, to save old Jim? Jim will never forget you for that."

Then they talked about the twenty dollars they had got. Jim said that it would be enough for them to reach the free States. They worked all day putting things in bundles and getting ready to leave the raft. But that night they discovered that the town was not Cairo. Jim was awfully disappointed. Perhaps Cairo would be the next place, they hoped.

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## CHAPTER X

### HUCK HAS ANOTHER NAME

All of a sudden there came a big steamboat pounding up the river. The pilots of steamboats usually tried to see how close they could pass rafts without touching them, and then they would put their heads out and laugh. This steamboat looked like a black cloud, and its wide-open engine doors shone like red-hot teeth. It came very near Huck's raft. There was a bell to stop the engine and a whistling of steam. But the steamboat smashed through the raft. Jim jumped overboard on one side and Huck on the other. Huck dived and then came to the surface and saw the steamboat churning along up the river.

Huck shouted for Jim about a dozen times but there was no answer. He had no hope of meeting Jim again. He grabbed a plank that touched him and headed towards the shore. He made a safe landing and climbed up the bank. He went along for a quarter of a mile and suddenly came across a big old fashioned double loghouse. He tried to get away, but a lot of dogs jumped out and started howling and barking at him.

Then someone spoke out of a window without putting his head out:

"Quiet! Who's there?"

Huck said, "It's me."

"Who's me?"

"George Jackson, Sir."

"What do you want?"

"I want nothing, Sir. I only want to go along this way, but these dogs won't let me go."

"What are you doing here at this time of the night?"

"I fell overboard off a steamboat," Huck said.

"Did you? If you are telling the truth you needn't be afraid. Nobody will hurt you. But don't move. Stand right where you are."

Huck saw a light and heard people moving around in the house. Then someone asked him, "Now, George Jackson, do you know the Shepherdsons?"

"No, Sir. I have never heard of them," said Huck. The man said, "If there's anybody with you, let him keep back. You come along now and push the door open and squeeze in."

Huck obeyed. When he pushed the door he saw a candle on the floor and three big men pointing their guns at him. All the three looked fine and handsome. Behind them there was a sweet old lady and two young women. In the candlelight they had a good look at Huck. And they said, "Why, he isn't a Shepherdson. There isn't any Shepherdson about him." But one of them searched him for arms and said it was all right. Then they told him to make himself easy and feel at home.

The old woman felt sorry for Huck because he was drenched. She asked her son, Buck, to give him some of his clothes. Buck was as old as Huck, about thirteen or fourteen, but was a little bigger and was carrying a gun. He took Huck upstairs to his room and gave him some clothes to put on.

Then they gave him cold corn-bread, cold meat, butter and butter-milk. Huck had not tasted such good food before. Buck and his mother and all of them smoked pipes and ate and talked. They started asking him questions, and Huck said, "My father and I and all the family were living on a little farm down at the bottom of Arkansas. My sister, Mary Ann, ran off and got married. Pap was very poor and when he died I took whatever he had left and started up the river and fell overboard." They believed Huck's words and allowed him to stay with them as long as he wanted.

It was very late and everyone went to bed. When Huck got up in the morning he had forgotten what his name was. So when Buck woke up he said,

"Can you spell, Buck?"

"Yes," he said.

"Can you spell my name?"

"I bet, I can. What do you take me for?"

"All right, go ahead."

"G-o-r-g-e J-a-x-o-n, there now!"

"Well, it's not an easy name to spell."

And Huck got his name. If anyone wanted him to spell his name he was ready to do it.

It was a nice family and it was a nice house. Huck had never seen such a beautifully furnished house before. There were lovely table covers, painted crockery and window curtains all brought from Philadelphia. There was an old piano for the young ladies to play on. It was a double house with a big open space between the two halves.

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## CHAPTER XI

### THE FEUD

Huck lived in that house as a member of their family. Buck was his companion. The head of the family was Colonel Grangerford, a respectable old gentleman. His daughter Miss Charlotte was twenty-five. She was tall and proud. But her sister Miss Sophia was as gentle and sweet as a dove. She was only twenty. Each member in the family had a slave and Huck got one too. But Huck's slave had an easy time because he was not in the habit of making anyone do anything for him.



There was another clan of—five or six families—around there as aristocratic as the Grangerfords. They were known as the Shepherdsons. These two clans were enemies and they had frequent quarrels.

One day Buck and Huck went out into the woods to hunt. While they were crossing the road they heard a horse coming. Buck said, "Quick, let us jump for the woods." They did so and peeped down through the leaves. There was a handsome young man galloping down the road. It was Harney Shepherdson. He had a gun across his saddle. Huck heard Buck's gun go off. The bullet hit Harney's hat, which fell off his head. Harney took his gun and aimed in the direction from which the bullet had come. But he did not shoot. He turned round and rode off.

Huck and Buck ran all the way home. When the old gentleman heard what Buck had done he looked pleased, but he said, "I don't like that shooting from behind a bush. Why didn't you step into the road?"

"The Shepherdsons are cunning. They always take advantage," said Buck.

Miss Charlotte held her head up like a queen while Buck was telling his tale. But Miss Sophia turned pale until she heard that Harney was not hurt.

Huck could not understand why Buck had shot at the man on the horse. So he asked,

"Did you want to kill him, Buck? What did he do to you?"

"Nothing, it's only on account of the feud."

"What's a feud?" asked Huck.

"Well, a feud is this way. A man has a quarrel with another man and kills him. Then the other man's brother kills *him*, then the other brothers and the cousins. And by and by everybody is killed off. But it is slow and takes a long time."

"Has this been going on for long, Buck?"

"Well, it started thirty years ago over some trouble and there was a law suit to settle it. The suit went against one and he shot the other who had won. Thus started the killing."

Next Sunday they all went to church on horseback. Huck was with them. The men took their guns with them and hid them between their knees. The Shepherdsons did the same. The preaching was about 'loving your neighbour' and everybody said it was a nice sermon. On their way home they talked about brotherly love and faith and good deeds.

After lunch when everybody was dozing, Miss Sophia beckoned Huck to her room. She asked him if he would do something for her. When Huck said yes she said she had forgotten her Bible and left it at the church. Huck went to the church and got it.

On his way back Huck thought it was not natural for a girl to be worried about a Bible. So he gave the book a shake and a little piece of paper dropped out of it. On it was written "Half-past two". When he gave the Bible to Miss Sophia, she pulled him into her room. She opened the Bible, took the paper out and read it. She then asked Huck if he had read it, and Huck said no. Then she said that it was nothing but a bookmark to keep her place.

Next day when Huck woke up he heard that Miss Sophia had run off with Harney Shepherdson. Buck had gone off without waking him. There was no one there. Huck walked up the river road. Near where the steamboats landed he saw four or five men on horses riding around in the open place. He could hear guns. The men were shouting. Huck climbed up a tree. He saw two boys running to the woodpile in front of the tree. One of them was Buck. He was surprised when he heard Huck's voice from the tree. He and his cousin Joe were following Harney and Sophia

who had got safely across the river. He was crying and said that his father and two brothers were killed. Suddenly a few men came from behind and fired, and both the boys were hurt. The boys ran towards the river.

Huck remained in the tree till it was almost dark. He thought that he was the cause of all this trouble. If he had told Miss Sophia's father about that piece of paper with 'half-past two' on it these things would not have happened. He came down and walked towards the river bank. There he found two dead bodies. One was of Buck and the other was of his cousin Joe. He covered Buck's face and got away as quickly as he could. He cried a little while he was covering Buck's face because he had been so good to Huck.

Huck never went back to the Grangerfords.

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## CHAPTER XII

### THEIR LORDSHIPS!

Jim had swum to the bank and gone to the woods on the day he jumped overboard from the raft. In the morning some slaves from a big house found him and showed him a place to hide. He patched up the damaged raft and hid it in a creek. It was a slave in that big house who told Huck about the raft in the creek. So Huck made his way to the creek and shouted. And there was Jim. Jim was so glad to see Huck that he grabbed and hugged him. They felt free and easy and comfortable on the raft. Two or three days and nights went by as they continued their journey down the river.



One morning Huck went about a mile upstream for some berries. Suddenly he saw a couple of men running towards him. They were being chased by men and dogs. They jumped into the canoe, and paddled it to the island where Huck was standing. One fellow was about seventy with a bald head and grey whiskers. The other one was about thirty and dressed as poorly as the old man. Both had big carpet-bags. From what they said Huck understood that the two did not know each other. The old man was a chemist who sold some medicine for teeth. It cleaned the teeth all right but took the enamel off. The young man used to speak to people at meetings against drinking; but somehow a report went round that he drank on the sly. So people were after both of them with their dogs and horses.

The young man said he was a good actor and that he could teach songs too. The old man was a fortune-teller. He said preaching was his line. The young man claimed that he was the rightful Duke of Bridgewater, brought down to that level by the cruel world. And the old man said he was the eldest son of the King of France. Huck and Jim addressed them as Your Grace and Your Lordship. In fact Huck suspected that they were not real kings or dukes, but just ordinary quacks. But he did not tell Jim. He allowed them to have their own way in order to get along peacefully.

The king and the duke asked them a number of questions.

“Why do you cover the raft?”

“Why do you hide during the day?”

“Is Jim a runaway slave?” and so on.

Huck said, “My people were living in Missouri. All of them died except me, and Pa and my brother. We caught this raft one day to take us to New Orleans. As ill luck would have it a steamboat ran over us and Pa and my brother were both drowned. Pa left only sixteen dollars

and Jim for us. People always come to take Jim off as a runaway slave. So we don't travel during the day but keep hiding."

After breakfast the king and the duke started playing cards in the wigwam. Then the duke took out a number of paper notices from his carpet-bag. In one he was a famous doctor from Paris, in another he was a great Shakespearean actor from London. He could tell the future and drive away evil spirits.

After lunch they went to a town about three miles downstream. The people in the town had a camp-meeting two miles inside the woods. On the way the duke found a printing office. Nobody was there. So he stayed there and the others went to the camp-meeting. It was a hot day. Preaching was going on in the temporary sheds where men and women sat on benches made of logs. The preacher read out hymns, and then all of them started singing together.

After a few minutes the king went up on the stage. The preacher asked him to speak. He said that he had been a pirate in the Indian Ocean for thirty years, and that his men had been killed in a fight. He had given up piracy and was now going back to the Indian Ocean with a group of good men to turn all pirates to the true path. He added that he had been robbed the previous night and that he did not have a cent with him. The king then went through the crowd with his hat. His eyes were wet. He blessed the people for being so good to the poor pirates. Back at the raft the king counted that day's collection. It was 87 dollars. In the meantime the duke had done some printing jobs for farmers. He had 9 dollars with him. Then he showed Huck the notice he had printed with the picture of a runaway slave with a reward of 200 dollars on his head. It was all about Jim. It said that he had run away from New Orleans.

The duke said, "We can tie Jim up and say we captured him and that we are taking him down to collect our reward."

## CHAPTER XIII

### “ROYAL NONESUCH”

Next day after breakfast the king smoked his pipe and with the help of the duke started rehearsing ‘Romeo and Juliet’. Then they made wooden swords and practised fighting. The duke got some more notices printed.

One morning they started and went down the river past the State of Arkansas. They tied up the raft and all except Jim went to the town. There was going to be a circus there that afternoon. The duke hired the court-house and they put up their posters. People came from far and near. The streets were full of waggons and horses. Families brought their food with them and ate in their waggons.

Huck went to the circus. He went to the back of the tent, waited there till the watchman went by and then crawled under the tent. He had his twenty-dollar gold piece with him but he wanted to save it.

It was a fine circus. All the ladies were extremely beautiful and they looked like real queens. They were dressed in clothes that appeared to cost millions of dollars and had imitation diamonds round their necks. They went round the ring galloping and dancing. The ring-master went round and round cracking his long whip in the air and the clown played the fool behind him.

A drunkard got into the ring for a ride on a horse. The people in the ring tried to keep him out but he would not listen to anybody. Finally the ring-master allowed him to ride if he could stay on the horse. As soon as he was on the horse it started jumping around and rearing. At last the horse broke loose. It went round and round the ring. The drunkard hung on to its neck. It was not funny. People trembled to see the danger the man was in !



Then suddenly the man sprang up and stood on the horse. The horse went round faster and faster and now the man on it was easy and comfortable. He began to pull off his clothes. He threw away seventeen suits. And then he was a slim and handsome fellow dressed in the finest dress you had ever seen. He was not an outsider. He was one of their own men.

That night the king and the duke had their show. There were only twelve people to witness it. The audience laughed all the time and that made the duke angry. The duke said that what the Arkansas fools wanted was something less than low comedy. So the next morning they put up posters and at the bottom of the posters they wrote: 'Ladies and children not admitted.' The new name for their play was "The Royal Nonesuch."

That night the house became full in no time. The duke came on the stage and made a bow and said it was a most thrilling play that they were going to witness. Then came the king on all fours without any costume. He was painted all over with stripes and rings in all the colours of the rainbow. The audience laughed and laughed. They cheered till the king came back and did it all over again. Then the duke brought the curtain down. The king said the play would be performed only two nights more on account of his pressing engagements in London.

Next day the house was full again. After the show Huck and Jim took their raft down the river two miles below the town. The third night the audience consisted of only those who had seen the show earlier. But this time they had their pockets bulging with rotten eggs, old cabbages and such things. They were planning to throw them on the stage. But the duke knew their plan; so he called Huck to the stage door and said in a low voice, "Let's walk fast, now, till we get away from the houses and let's run for the raft." So in the darkness they ran as fast as they could to the raft and in two seconds they were going

down the stream. The king joined them later. They had collected four hundred and sixty-five dollars in three nights. Huck had never seen money by the waggonload like that before.

Huck went to sleep. But when he woke up he saw Jim with his head between his knees. He was thinking about his wife and children. He was homesick. He had to lie down all day in the wigwam tied with a rope because they wanted him to look like a runaway slave. The duke found that Jim was not happy ; so he dressed him up in a calico gown made from an old curtain and gave him a white horse-hair wig and whiskers. Then he painted Jim's face, hands and neck in blue and wrote out a sign-board and nailed it in front of the wigwam :

“Sick Arab—but harmless when not out of his head.”

Jim said it was better than being tied.

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## CHAPTER XIV

### DEAD PETER'S BROTHERS

In the new town the duke and the king did not want to try their acting again. They thought the news of their play might have come down the river to that town.

Next day they saw a steamboat taking on a load by the shore, some distance away from their raft. Huck was rowing the canoe along near the shore when they saw a country fellow with two carpet-bags. The king asked him :

“Where are you bound for, young man?”

“For the steamboat going to New Orleans”, he said.

"Get aboard," said the king. The young man thanked the king and said, "When I saw you I thought you were Mr. Wilks. But Mr. Wilks can't be here now." Then the king told him that he was the Reverend Alexander Bolagett, one of the Lord's servants and asked who Mr. Wilks was. The young man then explained how Mr. Wilks had missed seeing his brother Peter before he died. The king then asked more questions about everybody in Mr. Wilks' family, about their business and so on. He very cleverly found out that Peter's brothers Harvey and William had left their home when they were boys and that Peter had not seen them for a long time. William was deaf and dumb. Harvey lived in Sheffield in England. George, another brother, had three daughters, Mary Jane nineteen, Susan fifteen and Joanna fourteen, but they had lost their mother and father about a year before. Peter had just died, and the family were now waiting for his brothers, Harvey and William, to arrive.

The king told the duke everything the young fellow had said. He wanted the duke to act as William, the deaf and dumb brother. They waited for another steamboat to go to that village. They paid a dollar each for the short distance, and the king, the duke and Huck reached the village. As soon as they went ashore a crowd gathered. The king asked them about Mr. Peter Wilks. When they told him about his death the previous night the king began to cry, "Ah, our poor brother! gone! gone!, and we will never see him again!" While weeping he turned round and made signs to the duke to cry. And both of them cried and cried and more and more people gathered around them and tried to console them.

The news spread all over the town that dead Peter's brothers had come, and people came running. When the king, the duke and Huck reached the house the three girls Mary, Susan and Joanna were standing at the door. They ran into the king's arms. Everybody cried for joy to see the family reunion.



They walked to Peter's coffin. The duke and the king took their hats off. They knelt down on either side of the coffin and pretended to pray, with tears running down their cheeks. Then the king came forward and made a speech about how he had come four thousand miles and missed seeing his brother alive. All felt sad for him.

According to dead Peter's will there were six thousand dollars in the cellar and that money would go to the brothers. Huck brought a candle. They found the bag and poured out the gold pieces on the floor. It was a lovely sight. The king's eyes shone. He slapped the duke on the shoulder. They counted it, and found that it was short by 415 dollars. They wondered what they should do and finally decided to make it up with their old 'Nonesuch' money. They took the money upstairs and gave it all to the three girls. The king said the brothers would not take any share of it. The girls hugged and kissed the king and duke and cried.

The king was ready for another speech. He invited all of them to the funeral. He spoke as if he had come from England. Then an iron-jawed man who was called 'Doctor' came forward and asked the king, "*You talk like an Englishman! It's the worst imitation I have ever heard! You, Peter Wilks' brother? You are a fraud.*" The crowd tried to explain to him that he was Harvey. They requested him not to hurt the feelings of the girls. But the Doctor went on calling them impostors who had come to fool them. But Mary Jane put the bag of money into the king's hands and said, "Take this six thousand dollars and invest it for me and for my sisters. We don't want any receipts for this."

The crowd clapped their hands, and the king held up his head proudly. The Doctor left the place without saying a word.

The king and the duke planned to rob the girls of this money. Huck said to himself, "Shall I go to that Doctor and expose these frauds? Shall I go and tell Mary Jane?"

But he was afraid they would tell the king **and** the duke about him. So Huck decided he would **steal** the money somehow and hide it and then write a letter to Mary Jane telling her where he had hidden it.

The king and the duke took the bag and hid it under the feather bed. They never suspected that Huck was there but he was hiding behind the curtain. He saw where they had hidden the money. As soon as they went downstairs Huck took the money and came down the ladder.

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## CHAPTER XV

### HUCK STEALS THE MONEY

Huck crept to the dining room door and listened. Through a crack he could see that the men watching the corpse were all sound asleep. The only place he could see to hide the bag of money was in the coffin. The lid of the coffin had been moved along about a foot and he could see the dead man's face covered with a wet cloth. Huck pushed the money bag under the lid and then ran back across the room and hid behind the door.

He saw Mary Jane coming to the coffin and kneeling. Then he thought that if they saw the money at the time of screwing on the lid the king would get it. And if he wrote a letter to Jane without making sure that the money was still there he would be caught and imprisoned. But he was afraid to go and take the money back.

After some time the undertaker came. The coffin was brought to the middle of the room. The lid was in the same position as it was before. People filed around slowly in single rank and looked at the dead man's face.

Some dropped a tear and some sobbed. It was all very still and solemn. After the funeral sermon was over the undertaker moved towards the coffin, slid the lid along and screwed it down tight.

In the evening the king came and gave out the news that he was leaving for England. He was sorry he had to hurry because he had business in his church. He said he and William would take the girls home with them. Everybody was pleased and the girls were happy. Only Huck felt sad to see the girls being fooled.

The day after the funeral, some slave traders came there and the king sold the three slaves who had worked in the house, a woman and her two sons. The sons were taken up the river to Memphis and the mother was taken down the river to Orleans. The girls said they had never dreamt that the servant family would be so separated. But it was all done by the king.

The king had arranged to have the sale of the property of dead Peter the next day. In the morning the king and the duke woke Huck up and asked him if he had been in their room the night before.

Huck said, "No, Your Majesty."

"No lies!"

"I am telling you the truth."

"Have you seen anybody else going in there?"

"Well, I saw the servants going in there several times."

"When was that?"

"It was on the funeral day in the morning. They were there to tidy up Your Majesty's room."

Both of them gave a little jump. They scratched their heads. In their opinion the servants had a fortune with them. Huck asked them, "Has anything gone wrong?"



"None of your business. You mind your own affairs," said the king.

They went out scolding each other.

Next day Mary Jane was packing her things to go to England. She hid her face in her hands and was crying bitterly. Huck asked her to tell him why she was crying. She said she was sad about the mother servant and the children who would never see each other again. He said they would be reunited in about two weeks. Mary Jane was happy.

Huck had only been waiting for the right time to tell her all about the king and the duke; so he said,

"I am going to tell you the truth. I know it is going to be hard to take it. But that can't be helped. These uncles of yours are not uncles at all. They are a couple of frauds, complete *scoundrels*.

This jolted her up like anything. Huck told her where he had first met them at the steamboat and how they had heard of Peter's death and so on. Mary Jane jumped up with her face flaming with anger and said, "Brutes! We'll have them caught and beaten up and flung in the river." She asked him what she should do. Huck knew that there were others who could deal with them. So he wrote on a piece of paper "Royal Nonesuch, Bricksville" and said, "Let the court say they've got the men who played 'Royal Nonesuch' and ask for witnesses from Bricksville. Then that entire town will be here in a minute. Let the auction go right ahead. Don't worry. Nobody is going to get the money."

Then he told her about the bag of money. "I stole it from them to give it to you. I've hidden it. But I'm afraid it's not there any more. I'll not tell you where I put it, but I will write it on a piece of paper and you can read it later." He wrote, "I put it in the coffin. It was in there when you were crying in the night. I was behind the door, and I was very sorry for you."

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## CHAPTER XVI

### DIGGING UP THE COFFIN

The auction of dead Peter's property went on in the public square. The king and the duke went round and at times the king read something from a little Scripture book. While they were at it a steamboat landed and a crowd of people came along yelling and laughing. One of them shouted :

"Here's your opposite party! Here are two sets of heirs of old Peter Wilks! Decide who the real heirs are and pay them the money!"

The crowd brought an old man and a nice-looking younger one with his right arm in a sling. The old man looked puzzled when he saw the king. But when he spoke everyone could see that he spoke like an Englishman and not like the king. He said, "I am Peter Wilks' brother, Harvey, and this is my brother, William. He can't hear or speak. He broke his arm and lost his baggage in the town."

Then the king laughed and said, "Broke his arm! Very likely, isn't it? And lost his baggage!" And the whole crowd laughed. But Levi Bell, the lawyer from St. Louis and the Doctor were there in the crowd. The Doctor said, pointing to the king and the duke :

"We don't wish to be hard on these men. But if they are honest let them send for the six thousand dollars they got from the cellar and prove that they are dead Peter's brothers." Everybody agreed to this. Now the king and the duke were in a tight spot. But the king pretended to be sad and said :

"Gentlemen, I wish the money were here. But we hid it under my bed. Being used to honest servants in England we thought the money would be safe. But it has been stolen by the servants."

The people would not believe this. They made the king tell his story. And they asked the old gentleman to tell *his*. It would be easy to discover the truth. The duke and the king had to tell lie after lie to convince them that they were Peter Wilks' brothers. At last the old gentleman turned towards the king and said, "Perhaps this gentleman can tell me what was tattooed on Peter's breast." The king became pale. He put on a smile and said :

"It's a very hard question. Yes, I can tell you what's tattooed on his breast. It's a small blue arrow." Then the old gentleman said, "What you can see on my brother's breast is P—B—W with dashes between them and not a blue arrow", and he marked them on a sheet of paper. Now a quarrel started between the king and the old man. Then the lawyer came forward and shouted, "Gentlemen, hear me. Just a word if you please. There's only one way. Dig up the coffin and look."

The whole crowd shouted "Hurrahy!". Some of them said, "If we don't find the marks on his body we'll hang the whole gang." The four brothers of dead Peter and Huck were taken to the graveyard which was a mile and a half down the river. It was nine o'clock at night. Lightning had begun to flash and the wind was blowing fast. They had no lantern. They dug and dug in the lightning flashes. It was pitch dark and the thunder boomed. At last they got out the coffin and unscrewed the lid. Everyone was excited. They crowded around to have a look. All of a sudden there was a white glare of lightning and somebody shouted,

"Here's a bag of gold on his breast !"

Everybody rushed forward. In the melee Huck saw someone holding up the bag of gold. He felt that it would be dangerous to remain there. It was all dark. So he slipped through the crowd and flew down the road to the river. By a flash of lightning he could see a canoe tied with a rope. He jumped in and paddled towards the raft



and called out "Jim!, Jim!" In the lightning Huck could see Jim on the raft. Jim was full of joy and he wanted to hug Huck. But Huck said, "Cut loose and let the raft slide. No time to lose." So in two seconds they were sliding down the river. But after a few minutes they heard a familiar voice. They held their breath and listened. And there were the king and the duke coming behind in a skiff !!

When they got on the raft the king grabbed Huck by the collar and said,

" Trying to leave us ! Tired of our company ? "

"No, Your Majesty, I'll tell you everything. I told Jim I was afraid that you and the duke were not alive. I had to hurry. Or else they would have hanged me. And we were really happy when we saw you coming. Ask Jim. "

Then the duke and the king quarrelled angrily over the hidden money. The king said the duke had stolen it and the duke said the king had done it. The duke became furious and grabbed the king and started squeezing his neck. Finally the king said, " Enough, I own up ! "

Huck was very glad to hear him say that and it made him feel easy. The duke took his hands off the king's neck and said,

" If you ever deny this again I'll drown you. I can see, now, why you were anxious to make up the deficit. You wanted to get the money I had got out of the Nonesuch. "

The king sneaked into the wigwam and took his bottle for comfort. Before long the duke took *his* bottle, and in about half an hour they became thick as thieves again and started snoring in each other's arms.

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## CHAPTER XVII

### JIM DISAPPEARS

For days and days they did not stop at any town. They kept moving south in the warm weather. The king and the duke now thought that they were out of danger and that they could stop at towns along the river. In some towns they lectured on the evils of drinking and in some they tried mesmerizing, doctoring and telling fortunes. But they seemed to have no luck. When they had almost no money left they lay quiet on the raft. One morning Huck and Jim saw them in the wigwam talking in a low tone for hours together. Huck felt uneasy. He did not like that. He thought they were planning to break into somebody's house or to do some counterfeit money business.

One morning they hid their raft in a safe place about two miles away from a village called Pikesville. The king went ashore and asked the others to remain on the raft. He went up to the village to find out whether anyone there had heard of the 'Royal Nonesuch'. As the king did not return by mid-day, Huck and the duke went to the village. There they found the king in the back room of a doggery with a lot of loafers. He was so drunk that he could not walk, and the loafers were bullying him. When the duke saw the king he began to abuse him and of course the king started talking back. This went on for some time. So Huck sneaked away and ran down the river road like a deer. When he reached the raft he was out of breath but full of joy that they would never again meet the king and the duke. He called out to Jim to let loose the raft. But there was no answer. Nobody came out of the wigwam. Jim was gone. Huck ran about this way and that, shouting and screaming, but all in vain. At last he sat down and cried.

Then he went out on the road and saw a boy. He asked him if he had seen a strange negro. Huck described the way Jim was dressed. And the boy said, "Yes. Down at Silas Phelps' place, two miles down. He is a runaway negro and they have got him. There is a reward of two hundred dollars for him. But a stranger, an old fellow has sold him for forty dollars because he wanted to go up the river."

Huck went back to the raft and sat down in the wigwam sad and disheartened. He could not see a way out of this trouble. He said to himself: "After all this long journey and after all we have done for these scoundrels they had the heart to play this dirty trick on Jim and make him a slave all his life for forty dirty dollars."

"And think of me. People will go about saying that Huck sold an old woman's servant and helped him to get his freedom. When I think of this, my conscience bothers me. But I am brought up wicked, so I am not to blame."

Huck believed that it was the plain hand of Providence slapping him in the face for his wickedness in stealing the slave of Miss Watson who had never done him any harm. So he knelt down to pray. But words would not come. He knew that his heart was not right and that he was being a hypocrite. He wanted to write a letter to Jim's owner about where Jim was, but he knew it was not right. Finally he decided to write. He got a piece of paper and pencil and, glad and excited, he sat down and wrote:

"Miss Watson, your runaway slave, Jim is down here two miles below Pikesville, and Mr. Phelps has got him and he will give him up if you send the reward."

*Huck Finn*



Then he felt he had washed himself of all sin for the first time, and he knew he could pray. But he laid the paper down and sat thinking—thinking of their trip down the river—thinking how good Jim was, how Jim had always trusted him, how Jim was the best friend he had ever had in the world.

He wondered whether he should send the letter at all. He looked at the paper trembling. He held his breath and said to himself, "All right, then, I'll go to hell," and tore up the letter. He said he would take to wickedness again and go and do everything he could to steal Jim out of slavery.

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## CHAPTER XVIII

### HUCK BECOMES TOM

It was getting dark. Huck went out on his raft to an island down the river, hid it there and went to sleep. In the morning he tied up some of his clothes in a bundle and went ashore in the canoe. After walking some distance he passed a mill and saw the name 'Phelps Sawmill'. Then he reached some farmhouses about three hundred yards away. The very first man he saw there was the duke who was sticking up notices for the 'Royal Nonesuch'. The duke was surprised to see Huck and he asked him how he had come there and where the raft was. Huck was anxious to know about Jim's whereabouts. Then the duke told him that the king had sold Jim for forty dollars and spent all the money on drink without giving him his share. He did not, however trust Huck. So he said that the man who had bought Jim was one Abraham G. Foster who lived some forty miles away in the country. He wanted Huck to be away for three days till the 'Royal Nonesuch' was over.

Huck was no fool. He knew that the duke would be watching him. So he went out into the country about a mile and then ran back through the woods to Phelps'.

Huck reached Phelps' place. There was a fence around a two-acre yard. In the yard there was a long house with a kitchen and a small smoke-house. Huck could see a number of cabins for slaves. There were a number of hounds sleeping in the sun. Huck climbed over the back stile and walked towards the kitchen. When he had gone halfway some fifteen hounds jumped out barking and howling. A negro woman who came out of the kitchen with a rolling pin in her hand hit the dogs and they ran away. Then there came a white woman about forty-five years old and behind her a few little white children. As soon as the woman saw Huck she came running and said,

"It's you at last, isn't it? You don't look like your mother as I thought you would. I'm so glad to see you."

She grabbed and hugged Huck and tears came into her eyes. Then she said,

"Children, this is your cousin, Tom. Greet him." But the children put their fingers in their mouths and hid behind her.

Huck did not know what to say. She took his hand and walked to the house. She sat on a low stool and Huck sat on a chair. Then she said,

"Now I can get a good look at you. I have been hungry for it many a time. I have been expecting you a couple of days. What happened to you? Did the boat go aground?"

When Huck said, "Yes m'm" she said, "Don't say Yes m'm, say Aunt Sally."

Then she started asking him about people at home and Huck got uneasy. Quickly he said, "There was an accident and a negro was killed. The captain of the boat took me

to the officer's room and gave me everything I wanted. My baggage is in the town."

Just then Aunt Sally saw Mr. Phelps coming. Just to play a joke on him Aunt Sally asked Huck to hide himself behind the bed, and asked the children not to say a word.

Mr. Phelps had gone to meet Tom Sawyer at the jetty. So when he came in Aunt Sally asked, "Has he come?"

"No", said the husband. While he was looking out through the window, Aunt Sally pulled Huck and he came out. When Mr. Phelps turned round he saw Huck and he said, "Why, who's that?"

"Who do you think it is? It's Tom Sawyer!", said Aunt Sally.

Then Mr. and Mrs. Phelps started asking him questions about his cousins Sid and Mary and the rest of their family.

Huck told them all about 'his' family—the Sawyer family. Mr. and Mrs. Phelps were very happy. Huck was in a way glad that they took him for Tom. He was feeling pretty comfortable all down one side and uncomfortable all up the other. Being Tom Sawyer was easy and comfortable. But when he heard a steamboat coming along down the river he said to himself, "Suppose Tom Sawyer is on that boat, and suppose he steps in here and calls out my name before I can throw him a wink to keep quiet!.....It mustn't happen that way. I must go up the road and waylay him."

So Huck told the people that he would go up to the town and fetch his baggage. The old gentleman wanted to go with him but Huck said he would go alone; and he started for the town in their waggon.



All the afternoon they talked a good deal. Tom was hoping to hear about Jim but no one said anything about a runaway negro. At supper one of the boys said, "May Tom, Sid and I go to the show?" Mr. Phelps did not allow him to go because he said the runaway negro had told him about the scandalous show "Nonesuch." Tom hoped that this negro might be Jim.

Tom and Huck were in the same room. When everyone was asleep they climbed out of the window and went to the town. On the road Tom told Huck how people at home thought that Huck had been murdered, how his father had disappeared and what a stir there had been when Jim ran away. And Huck told him all about the 'Royal Nonesuch' rascals and the raft voyage he had. When they reached the town they saw a crowd of people rushing past with torches and tin pans yelling, and blowing horns. They were after the king and the duke who were running away, covered all over with tar and feathers. Huck and Tom jumped to one side and let them pass. Then Huck asked some of the stragglers about it and they said: "Today many people went to the show looking very innocent. But they had planned to catch these Nonesuch scoundrels. Then when the king was on the stage and in the middle of his speech there was a signal. At once the whole audience rose and drove the two away." Huck felt sorry for the poor rascals. He was surprised to see human beings so cruel to one another.

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## CHAPTER XX

### THE COMPLICATED PLANS

On their way back Tom said Jim was in one of the cabins. He had seen a servant going there with a piece of watermelon, unlocking it and then locking it. So he concluded that a man must be imprisoned in the cabin, and that the prisoner must be Jim. Tom had found this out in a detective fashion.

Huck was happy that Tom was very earnest about freeing a runaway slave. Huck's plan was to bring the canoe and the raft from the island, to steal the key out of Mr. Phelps' trousers and take Jim down the river. But Tom wanted more adventure. He thought that this was as mild as milk. So he had his own plan which was more mixed up than Huck's.

The next morning they made friends with the slave, Nat, who was feeding Jim. He said that witches bothered him and that he could see strange things and hear strange noises at night. Tom gave him a dime to buy some thread to tie up his hair in order to keep the witches off. Nat took them inside the hut. There they saw Jim. When Nat went to the door to look at the dime Tom whispered to Jim "We are going to set you free. If you hear any digging at night, it's us."

Jim was tied to the leg of his bed with a ten-foot chain. There was no watchman or dog. And it was easy for them to lift up the bed and slip off the chain. But Tom said they should invent difficulties because there was more honour in getting him out through a lot of difficulties and dangers and they had to contrive them all out of their own head. According to Tom there was no charm in doing anything ordinary. It should be something novel all the time.

Tom had read in books about getting a prisoner out. So he suggested, "The way all the best authorities do this is to saw the bed-leg in two, swallow the sawdust so that it

cannot be found, then put some dirt and grease around the saw-mark so as to leave no sign of its being sawed. Then at night give the bed-leg a kick, slip off the chain and there you are. Then hitch your rope-ladder to the battlements, shin down it and break your leg in the moat, where your people fling you a saddle and away you go. I wish there was a moat to this cabin. If we get time we'll dig one". Tom had some other ideas too. "Borrow a shirt from Aunt Sally for Jim to write or make marks on. For pens he can use old pewter spoons and for ink it should be the prisoner's blood which Jim can manage. When he wants to send any mysterious message to let the world know where he is held captive he can write it on the back of a tin plate with a fork and throw it out of the window."

During that morning Huck stole a sheet to make the rope-ladder, and a white shirt, and knives for digging. They dug and dug with the knives behind Jim's bed till midnight. They became very tired and their hands were blistered.

The next night they went down to the hut and listened under the window-hole and heard Jim snoring. With the pick-axe and shovel they dug the hole through and came up under Jim's bed. They woke him up. Jim nearly cried. He was so glad to see them. He called them honey and many other pet-names. They told him all about their plans and though Jim did not like these plans he said they were all right.

The next morning they went to the hut with Nat. While they were leaving, eleven hounds came from under Jim's bed. Nat shouted "Witches!". Tom threw out a piece of meat from Jim's plate and the dogs rushed out after it. Then Tom told Nat that the witches were hungry and that a witch-pie should be made for them; and Tom agreed to make one.

They stole an old tin washpan from the cellar. It was full of flour. They tore the sheet up into strings and twisted them together for the ladder. Then they went to



the woods at night. They lined the pan with dough, put the rag rope in it, put some dough over it, then shut the lid and held it over the fire. It was a nice witch-pie.

The witch-pie was put in Jim's plate. Next morning Nat took it to Jim. Jim got the rope-ladder out of it and hid it inside his straw mattress. Now Jim had got every thing all right according to Tom's plans.

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## CHAPTER XXI

### TROUBLE BREWING

Tom had fresh ideas each day. He suggested that they should have a coat of arms—a dog with a chain under its foot for slavery; and a runaway negro with a bundle on his shoulder. Then Tom thought up a few mournful inscriptions. He wrote them on a paper and read them out in a trembling voice.

1. Here a captive heart burst.
2. Here a poor prisoner, forsaken by the world and friends, fretted out his sorrowful life.
3. Here a lovely heart broke, and a worn spirit went to its rest, after thirty-seven years of solitary captivity.
4. Here homeless and friendless after thirty-seven years of bitter captivity perished a noble stranger.

It was difficult for him to choose one of these because all were equally good. So Tom said Jim should inscribe *all* these into a rock which they would fetch. There was a big

grindstone at the mill. At midnight they removed Jim's chain, crawled out through the hole with him and Jim and Huck carried the heavy grindstone back to the hut. Tom supervised. They had to make the hole bigger for the grindstone. They made it big enough with the pick-axe. Tom marked out the letters on the stone with a nail and set Jim to work on them with the nail for a chisel and an iron bolt for a hammer. Then they helped him fix his chain back on the bed-leg.

When they were about to leave Tom got a new idea. "Prisoners have got to have some kind of pets—rattlesnakes, rats, spiders etc. Animals in a prison love music. You can play music to them with your mouth organ and they will flock around you."

Jim could not understand these things. He thought it was horrible to be a prisoner. But Tom said Jim was getting more and more chances for adventure than any prisoner ever had before in the world.

Tom and Huck got a splendid stock of spiders and bugs and frogs and snakes and rats, and Jim's hut became a lively cabin. He had one gang of these under him and another gang doing a circus over him.

By the end of three weeks everything was ready. Jim worked hard to write on the shirt and to cut out the words in the grindstone. They cut the bed-leg and covered the marks.

Mr. Phelps had written to the plantation below New Orleans to come and take their runaway negro, but he did not get any reply as there was no such plantation. Now he was going to advertise it in the St. Louis and New Orleans papers. So Tom said they should write letters warning people that something was up. Tom got a few more ideas. He said that Huck should be the servant girl and he himself would be Jim's mother. He would stuff Jim's clothes with straw and leave the dummy on his bed to represent his mother in disguise and Jim would wear the woman's gown before they escaped.

Huck stole the servant girl's dress that night and put Tom's letter under the front door. It read :

"Beware. Trouble is brewing. Keep a sharp lookout.

Unknown friend."

Next night they stuck a picture of a skull and crossbones on the front door and that of a coffin on the back door, all drawn by Tom. The whole family was very frightened.

The next day they got another letter ready. There was a negro on the watch at each door all night. The negro at the back door was asleep. So Tom stuck this letter in the back of his shirt and came back. This letter said,

"Don't betray me. I wish to be your friend. There is a desperate gang of cutthroats in the Indian Territory going to steal your runaway negro tonight. I am one of the gang but have got religion and wish to quit the gang and lead an honest life again, and will betray their hellish design.

"I do not wish to get any reward but I know I have done the right thing.

*Unknown friend."*

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## CHAPTER XXII

### THE SPLENDID RESCUE

After breakfast the next day Tom and Huck took the canoe and went fishing and had a look at the raft and made sure it was in good condition. They went home late to supper. All at home were found scared and worried. They did not say anything about what the trouble was and never let out a word about the letter.

Tom and Huck got up at about eleven at night. Huck went down the cellar to fetch some butter. There he saw a ball of butter as big as a man's fist. He took the butter and some bread. On the stairs he saw Aunt Sally coming with a candle. He hid the butter and the bread in his hat and clapped the hat on his head. She asked Huck why he had gone to the cellar. He didn't say any thing. She then pushed him into the sitting-room and went out. There was a crowd of some fifteen farmers there and everyone of them had a gun. It was very hot inside the room. The farmers were taking off their hats and putting them on again and scratching their heads and changing their seats. Huck felt quite uneasy because he could not take off his hat.

After some time Aunt Sally came and started asking him questions. It was getting hotter and hotter and the butter started melting. It trickled down Huck's forehead. Aunt Sally saw it and shouted, "What's the matter with this child? He's got brain fever and his brains are oozing out! Everybody ran to see this and she snatched off Huck's hat. The bread and what was left of the butter came out. Aunt Sally did not get angry. She just said, 'Dear', why didn't you tell me what you had been down there for? Now go to bed, and let me see no more of you till morning."

It was midnight. The house was full of men with guns. Some were at the door examining the padlock.

A man was saying, "They haven't come; the door is locked. Here, some of you go into the cabin and kill them when they come and the rest scatter around."

Huck and Tom were ready. Huck said, "Be as quick as you can. Jump for it now. Not a minute to lose." They were excited and their eyes were very bright.

"Hurry! hurry! where's Jim?" said Huck.

"Right at your elbow", said Tom. "If you reach out your arm you can touch him. He is dressed and everything is ready. Now we will slide out and give the signal."

In the dark the men couldn't see Huck and Tom. They got under the bed through the hole and came out quickly, first Jim, then Huck and finally Tom, not breathing and not making the least noise. They slipped stealthily towards the fence. Jim and Huck got over it all right. But Tom's trousers were caught fast on the fence and when he pulled, a splinter snapped and made a noise. And somebody shouted, "Who's that? Answer, or I'll shoot."

The three of them took to their heels towards the river. There was a rush, and a bang, bang, bang! The bullets whizzed around them and they heard the shouts "Here they are! To the river after them! Turn loose the dogs!"

Jim, Huck and Tom hid behind a bush. The dogs came barking behind them, but because they knew them, they did not harm them. The three ran for their lives through the bush towards the canoe and jumped in and rowed to the island where the raft was. The yelling and barking died out and on the raft Huck said, "Now, old Jim, you are a free man and I bet you'll never be a slave again."

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## CHAPTER XXIII

### TOM RETURNS

"What a tremendous job it was, so beautifully planned and so beautifully carried out! Nobody else could think of such a plan, so complicated and so splendid!" said Tom. They were all glad. But Tom was the gladdest of all because he had a bullet in the calf of his leg. When Huck and Jim heard that, they did not feel so excited as before. It was hurting Tom considerably and he was bleeding. So they laid him in the wigwam and tore up one of the duke's shirts to bandage him. But Tom said, "Take the oars and set the raft loose."

Huck and Jim consulted each other and decided to take Tom to a doctor. But Tom did not agree. Finally he said, well, then, if you are so keen I'll tell you the way to do it. When you go to the village and find a doctor shut the door and blindfold him and make him swear to be silent, and put a purse full of gold in his hand. Then lead him all around the back alleys in the dark and fetch him here in the canoe by a roundabout way."

Huck went to the village and met the doctor who was a very nice-looking old man. Huck said to him, "Yesterday afternoon my brother and I were on Spanish Island hunting and we camped on a piece of raft. But at about midnight my brother kicked his gun in his dreams, perhaps, and it went off and shot him in the leg."

The doctor had his doubts about that singular dream but he lighted his lantern, took his things and started. When they reached the canoe the doctor saw that the canoe was not big enough for two. So the doctor took the canoe to go to the raft and asked Huck to wait till he came back.

Huck said to himself, "If the doctor takes three or four days the cat will be out of the bag. I will wait and when he comes back we will tie him up and take him



down the river till Tom is all right and then give him the money and let him go." He crept into a lumber pile to get some sleep.

When Huck woke up the sun was up over his head. So he went to the doctor's house. The doctor was not there. He started back. On the way when he turned the corner he ran into Mr. Phelps. He said, "Why, Tom, where have you been all this time, you rascal?"

Huck said, "Sid and I were just hunting for the runaway negro."

"Why, where did you go? Your aunt is quite anxious about you," said Mr. Phelps.

"She needn't be anxious because, we're all right. We followed the men and the dogs but they outran us and we lost them. So we got a canoe and crossed over but couldn't find them. We tied up the canoe and went to sleep and didn't wake up till an hour ago. Sid is at the post-office and I am trying to get something to eat; and then we are going home."

Mr. Phelps and Huck went to the post-office. But as Huck knew, Tom was not there. So Mr. Phelps took Huck home.

Aunt Sally was very glad to see Huck back home again. She laughed and cried and hugged him.

The place was full of farmers and farmers' wives who were having their lunch. Each one said something about Jim's mysterious escape. They started discussing how it had been done but nobody could give any convincing explanation.

They were saying,

"Look at the ladder made of rags!"

"How did they bring that big grindstone inside the cabin?"

"Look at that bed-leg sawed off, a week for six men!"

"They have stolen everything they could lay their hands on—the shirts, the sheet, flour, candles, candlesticks, spoons, the new calico dress, and things like that!"

"Look at the writing with blood!" and so on. Finally they came to the conclusion that these things must have been done by spirits.

When all the farmers and their wives left, Huck went to Aunt Sally and told her what he had told Mr. Phelps. He consoled her by saying that Sid would be home in the morning.

After supper Mr. Phelps went in search of Tom. At about ten he came back a little bit uneasy because he could not find him. But he said, "Boys will be boys, and you will see him turn up in the morning all safe and sound." Aunt Sally had to be satisfied.

When Huck went to bed she sat down on his bed and kept on asking him if he thought Sid might be hurt or drowned or might be lying somewhere suffering or dead; and tears rolled down her cheeks. She kept a light burning and kept the door unlocked.

In the morning before breakfast Mr. Phelps went up to town but could find no trace of Tom. So he came back disappointed. He and his wife sat at the table not saying anything, looking mournful and letting their coffee get cold. Then they saw something and Aunt Sally ran. It was Tom Sawyer being carried on a mattress. The doctor, a lot of people, and Jim with his hands tied behind him were following him. Aunt Sally flung herself at Tom, and said,

"Oh, he's dead! he's dead! I know he's dead!"

Then Tom turned his head a little and muttered something. Aunt Sally flung up her arms and said,

"He's alive, thank God! And that's enough!"

She kissed him and flew into the house and started giving out orders right and left to get the bed ready. The doctor and Mr. Phelps went into the house with Tom.

The men waiting outside were saying that Jim should be hanged. But one of them said that Jim was not *their* slave and that they would have to pay his owner. So they took him to the cabin, put his own clothes on him and chained his hands and legs.

While the men were at it the doctor came out of the house and said,

"Don't be so harsh on him. He's not a bad negro. When I went to the place where the boy was, he was in a very bad condition and I could not cut the bullet out without some help. The minute I said this, out crawled this negro from somewhere and he helped me extremely well. I have never seen a more faithful slave. He is a good nurse too. In helping me he was risking his freedom. He is not a bad slave, gentlemen. That's what I think about him."

Then the men softened a little. Huck was thankful to the old doctor for doing Jim this good turn. They all agreed that Jim had done well and that he deserved some reward. They promised that they would not do him any harm. But he was still in the cabin!

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## CHAPTER XXIV

### HUCK WANTS TO LEAD A FREE LIFE

Next morning Tom was a good deal better. Huck went to his room and found him awake. Tom opened his eyes and said, "Hallo! Why, I'm at home! How's that? Where's the raft? Where's Jim?" Huck said, "They're all right."

"Good, splendid! Now we are all safe and sound. Did you tell aunty?"

"About what, Sid?"

"Why, about the way the whole thing was done; how we set the runaway negro free."

Aunt Sally thought that the boy was going off his head. But Tom said he was not.

"I know what I'm talking about. We did set Jim free. Aunty, it cost us a lot of work—weeks of it—hours and hours every night when you were asleep. And we had to steal the candles, the sheet, the shirt, your dress and spoons and plates and knives, the grindstone and flour and there is no end to it. We had to make the pictures of coffins and anonymous letters and dig the hole into the cabin, and make the rope-ladder and send it in the cooked pie. . . .

"We did it all by ourselves and Jim is a free man."

Aunt Sally said, "I have never heard the like of it before. So it was *you*, you little rascal who caused all this trouble and scared all to death! Well, you get all the enjoyment you can out of it now, and mind you, if I catch you meddling with *him* again—meddling with Jim who is safe and sound in the cabin again. . . . ."

Tom rose up in bed with his eyes red and said, "Aunt, they have no right to shut him up. Don't lose a minute. Set him free. He is no slave. He is as free as any creature that walks this earth."

There was a noise at the door. All eyes turned to look. Tom gasped in surprise. AUNT POLLY was standing in the doorway. Aunt Sally jumped up and hugged her. Huck crawled under the bed, Aunt Polly looked across at Tom over her spectacles and said, "Turn your head away, Tom!"

"Oh dear me!" said Aunt Sally, "Is he changed that much? Why, that's not Tom. It's Sid. Where's Tom?"

"You mean, Where's Huck Finn?" said Aunt Sally. "Come out from under that bed, Huck Finn."

Then Huck came out. Tom's Aunt Polly told them all about who Huck was and who Tom was and also said that Miss Watson had set Jim free in her will when she died two months back.

When Huck and Tom met privately later they discussed their future plans. Tom said that after setting Jim free they should take him home on a steamboat in a grand style, and see that all the negroes in the town welcomed him and took him in a torchlight procession as a great hero.

Then they set Jim free. Aunt Polly, Aunt Sally and Mr. Phelps gave him all he wanted to eat for having helped the doctor and nursed Tom. Tom gave him forty dollars for being a prisoner for such a long time and for suffering it patiently.

Tom suggested that for one or two weeks the three of them should go out at night seeking adventures in the Territory where Red Indians lived. Huck assumed that his father had taken all the money from Judge Thatcher and drunk it up. But Jim told them that the dead man they had found in the floating house had been Huck's father. So Huck's six thousand dollars were safe with Judge Thatcher. But Huck was eager to go to the territory ahead of the rest because he heard that Aunt Sally was going to adopt him and civilize him. Huck could not stand that. He wanted to lead a free life.

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## GLOSSARY AND QUESTIONS

## CHAPTER I

- stand her ways : bear her ways  
 civilize : improve and educate.  
 regular : in agreement with good behaviour.  
 gape : stare open-mouthed.  
 ghost : spirit of a dead person.  
 dishearten : cause to lose courage.  
 scramble : climb.  
 witch : woman said to use magic for evil purposes.

## QUESTIONS

1. How did Tom Sawyer and Huckleberry Finn become rich?
2. How did Widow Douglas try to 'civilize' Huck?
3. Then who took the place of Widow Douglas in looking after Huck?
4. Did she succeed in 'civilizing' him?
5. Where did Huck go one night? Why?
6. "He thought it was a bad sign". What was the bad sign? What did he do then?
7. Who did he see in the dark?
8. Write a short paragraph about Huck's life with Miss Watson.

## CHAPTER II

- tiptoe : walk on the tips of one's toes; walk without making a noise  
 bewitch : to work magic on.  
 gasp : take a short quick breath.  
 cent : the hundredth part of a dollar.  
 skiff : a small light boat.  
 pirate : a sea robber.  
 hog : pig reared for meat.  
 highwaymen : men usually on horseback who rob travellers by road (in olden times).



## QUESTIONS

1. What woke Jim up?
2. What did he do? Did he stop the boys?
3. "He bit his teeth hard." Who? Why?
4. What did Tom do after getting three candles from the kitchen?
5. What did Jim say later about the five-cent piece?
6. What did he do with the five-cent piece?
7. Where did Tom, Huck and their friends go?
8. What did they decide to do?
9. What was the line of business of that gang?
10. How did they decide that Huck could join the gang?
11. Write a short paragraph about "Tom Sawyer's Gang".
12. What do you think gave them ideas about robbery and killing?

## CHAPTER III

hog-drovers : those who drive hogs to market.

lie in ambush : to lie in wait to make a sudden attack.

lath : long thin strip of wood.

rag doll : doll made of waste cloth.

hymn-book : book containing songs of praise to God.

genies : ugly looking evil spirits with strong powers.

blockhead : a stupid person.

## QUESTIONS

1. How did Tom Sawyer's Gang play robbers?
  2. What was the secret news that Tom had got?
  3. Were there elephants and camels in the party?
  4. Who did they see?
  5. What happened to the elephants and camels, according to Tom?
  6. Did they get diamonds? What did they get?
  7. What are genies?
  8. How do they help human beings?
  9. How did Tom know about genies?
  10. Describe in two paragraphs how Tom Sawyer's Gang attacked the Spanish merchants and rich Arabs.
-

## CHAPTER IV

sober: not drunk

tangled: confused mass (of hair)

greasy: oily

whiskers: hair on the sides of a man's face

slouch-hat: hat with a turned-down brim

tan somebody's hide: to give him a good beating

temperance: self-control in the use of alcoholic drinks

turn over a new leaf: make a new and better start

porch: portico

## QUESTIONS

1. Why did Huck think that his father was not drowned?
2. Why did Huck's father scold Huck as soon as he saw him?
3. How much money did Huck have with him then? Did he give that money to his father?
4. Why did Huck's father go to Judge Thatcher?
5. "That pleased the old man." What pleased him?
6. Why did the new judge take Huck's father to his house?
7. Did he succeed in reforming him?
8. Write a short paragraph about Huck's father.

## CHAPTER V

game: animals and birds hunted for sport and food.

raft: number of tree trunks tied together to be floated down a river.

canoe: light boat moved by one or more paddles.

paddle: short oar with a broad blade at one or both ends.

for good: intending never to return.

cat fish: large fish without scales with feelers around the mouth.

cabin: room.

bacon: meat from the back or sides of a pig.

drag the river: use nets to search the bottom of a river.

nap: short sleep.

## QUESTIONS

1. Where did Huck's father take him one day?
2. Why did Huck's father always lock the door?
3. Did Huck want to go back to Widow Douglas? Why?

4. How did Huck get the canoe?
5. How did he get out of the cabin?
6. Why did he shoot a deer and bring it to the cabin?
7. Why did he stick some of his own hair on the axe with the blood of the deer?
8. Why did he drag the sack into the river?
9. Why did he leave a track of flour all the way to the lake?
10. Describe how Huck made people believe that he had been murdered?.

## CHAPTER VI

quicksilver: mercury.

munch: eat with much movement of the jaws.

camp-fire: fire made in the open air.

drift-logs: logs carried along by currents.

explore: travel into (a country) for the purpose of learning about it.

come in handy: be useful sometime or other.

## QUESTIONS

1. "White smoke went up from a side of the ferry-boat." Why?
2. Why were the people in the boat floating loaves of bread in the water?
3. Why did Huck hide behind a log when the ferry-boat came near?
4. "Everybody was talking about the murder". Whose murder? Why?
5. Why did Huck's heart jump up when he saw a camp-fire?
6. Who was the other person on the island?
7. Why did Jim say to Huck, "Don't hurt me, don't"?
8. Why did Jim leave Miss Watson?
9. How did he reach the island?
10. Where did Huck and Jim keep their things in the island?
11. What did they see in the wooden house floating down the river?
12. Did Huck look at the face of the dead man?
13. Write a paragraph about Jim's escape from Miss Watson till he reached the island.



## CHAPTER VII

sun-bonnet: small round head-dress tied under the chin by women and children.

reward: money given for the recapture of a criminal.

trap: capture by a trick.

ridge: long mountain range.

## QUESTIONS

1. How did Huck dress up as a girl?
2. Where did he get those clothes?
3. What lies did Huck tell the woman?
4. What did the woman tell him about Huckleberry Finn's murder?
5. Why did Huck pick up a needle and try to thread it?
6. Why did the woman throw the ball of lead on Huck's lap?
7. How does a woman thread a needle?
8. How does a woman catch anything in her lap?
9. Why did Huck tell Jim that there wasn't a minute to lose?
10. What was the name of the woman?
11. Write a short paragraph describing how the woman found out that Huck was a boy in girl's clothes.

## CHAPTER VIII

snug: sheltered from wind and cold; comfortable.

wigwam: hut or tent made by fastening mats over a framework of poles.

loot: goods taken away by thieves.

in a fix: in an awkward or difficult situation.

## QUESTIONS

1. How did Huck make a wigwam?
2. Why were they never hungry?
3. What did they see in the wreck?  
What did the people in the wreck plan to do?
5. What was Huck afraid of?
6. What did Huck and Jim do?
7. Why did Huck feel guilty?
8. What did he do to save the men in the wreck?
9. Why was it unsafe for them to be out during the day?

## CHAPTER IX

mooring : place where a boat is made secure by means of anchors.

spy-glass : a small telescope.

glow-worm : insect which gives out a green light at its tail.

fidget : move about restlessly.

nigger : negro. (term of contempt for a negro)

ell : 45 inches ; old measure of length.

shove off : start from the shore in a boat.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why did Huck and Jim think that it would be the end of their troubles if they reached Cairo ?
2. What happened when Huck tried to get the raft tied up ?
3. What did they get from the wreck ?
4. Why was Jim anxious to reach Cairo ?
5. What troubled Huck's mind when he knew that Jim was going to be free ?
6. What was Jim saying aloud about his freedom ?
7. Why did Huck say that he would tell people that Jim was a runaway slave ?
8. Who did he meet when he shoved off ?
9. Why did the men in the skiff say that Huck's father had got smallpox ?
10. Why did Huck feel bad when the men went off ?
11. Why was Jim disappointed ?

## CHAPTER X

pounding : striking heavily and repeatedly. (Here it means the boat came fast and noisily)

churn : to stir or move about violently.

grab : take roughly.

furnish : put furniture in.

## QUESTIONS

1. What did Huck and Jim do when the big steamboat smashed through their raft ?
2. Did Huck see Jim ?
3. Where did Huck go ?
4. What was Huck's new name ?

5. What did Huck see when he pushed the door open ?
6. What did one of the men do ?
7. What did the old woman ask her son to do ?
8. What did Huck tell them about himself ?
9. What did Huck do to remember his new name the next day ?

## CHAPTER XI

clan : large family group.

aristocratic : belonging to the family of nobles.

saddle : leather seat for a rider on a horse.

take advantage : deceive, play a trick on.

sermon : a talk given in a church on a religious or moral subject.

faith : religious belief.

beckon : call somebody's attention by the movement of the hand.

## QUESTIONS

1. Which were the two clans ?
2. Whose house was Huck living in ?
3. Did Huck make his slave do hard work ?
4. What did Buck do when he saw the young man galloping down the road ?
5. Why did Buck shoot the man ?
6. Was Harney Shepherdson killed ?
7. Why did Miss Sophia turn pale when Buck told her his tale ?
8. What is a feud ?
9. How did the feud start ?
10. Why did the men of both the clans take their guns to the church ?
11. What did they discuss on their way home ?
12. What did Sophia ask Huck to do ?
13. What was there inside her Bible ?
14. Who had placed that piece of paper there ?
15. What did Huck hear when he woke up ?
16. When Buck and Joe were running to the woodpile where was Huck ?
17. Why did Huck think that he was the cause of all the trouble ?
18. What did he see at the river bank ?
19. Describe how Miss Sophia ran off with Harney Shepherdson and how Buck and Joe were killed.



## CHAPTER XII

patch up: repair.

creek: narrow inlet of water in a river-bank.

carpet-bags: travelling bags made of carpet.

on the sly: secretly.

fortune-teller: one who claims to tell good or bad luck coming to a person.

quack: one who pretends to have knowledge in medicine without being a real doctor.

## QUESTIONS

1. When did Jim jump overboard from the raft?
2. How did Huck meet Jim?
3. Two men came running to Huck. Who were they?
4. Why were the people and dogs after them?
5. Why did Huck and Jim call them 'Your Grace' and 'My Lord'?
6. Did Huck believe that they were real king and duke?
7. Why did Huck and Jim hide during the day?
8. What did Huck tell the duke and the king?
9. What did the king say at the camp-meeting?
10. How much money did he get?
11. What was the notice the duke printed in the printing press?

## CHAPTER XIII

nonesuch: something unequalled.

rehearse: practise a play for public performance.

rear: rise on hind legs.

costume: stage dress.

engagement: arrangement to go somewhere or to do something.

bulging: swelling.

homesick: sad because one is away from home.

wig: head-covering of false hair.

## QUESTIONS

1. What did the king and the duke do after breakfast?
2. Why did the duke hire the court-house?
3. Why did Huck go to the back of the tent and crawl under it?

4. While the drunken man was riding what did the horse do ?
5. Why was it not funny ?
6. Who was the drunken man ?
7. Why did the duke say that the Arkansas fools wanted something less than low comedy ?
8. What was the new name for their play ?
9. How did the king appear on the stage ?
10. Why did the people bring rotten eggs and old cabbages when they came to see the play ?
11. Why did the duke call Huck to the stage door ?
12. What did the duke do when he found that Jim was not happy ?

## CHAPTER XIV

bound for : going to.

coffin : box for a dead person to be buried in.

cellar : underground room for storing things.

fraud : person that cheats.

Impostor : person pretending to be what he is not.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why were the king and the duke afraid to try their acting in the new town ?
2. How did the king know about Peter's death ?
3. Who were Harney and William ?
4. Why did the king tell the duke about Peter's family ?
5. What was their plan ?
6. Why did the people gather around them and console them ?
7. Why did the three girls cry for joy ?
8. What did the king do when he went to Peter's coffin ?
9. What did the king say ?
10. How did the king get Peter's money ?
11. How did they make up the shortage ?
12. Why did they take the money upstairs ?
13. What did the Doctor say to the king ?
14. What did the girls do then ?
15. How did Huck get the six thousand dollars ?

## CHAPTER XV

undertaker : one who prepares the dead body for burial.

solemn : causing deep thought.

fortune : a great sum of money.

scoundrel : a wicked person.

jolt up : shake up.

## QUESTIONS

1. Where did Huck hide the bag of money ?
2. Why was Huck worried about it ?
3. What did the undertaker do ?
4. Why did Huck feel sad when he heard that the girls were going to England ?
5. Why did the king sell the three slaves ?
6. Why were the girls sad ?
7. Did the king and the duke know that Huck had stolen the money ?
8. What did Huck tell them ?
9. What did Huck tell Mary Jane about the king and the duke ?
10. Why did Huck write 'Royal Nonesuch, Bricksville' on a sheet of paper and give it to her ?
11. Did Huck tell Mary Jane that he had hidden the money in the coffin ?
12. What did he do instead ?

## CHAPTER XVI

Scripture book : the Bible.

in a tight spot : in a difficult situation.

tattoo : mark with designs on the skin.

melee : confused struggle.

squeeze : press from all sides.

deficit : shortage.

sneak : go secretly.

## QUESTIONS

1. Who came to the public square when the auction was on ?
2. What did one of them shout ?
3. What did the old man say when he saw the king ?
4. Why did the crowd laugh ?



5. Why were the king and the duke in a tight spot.
6. What did the king say ?
7. What did the old man want the king to say ?
8. What was the lawyer's solution to the quarrel, ?
9. Where did the people go ?
10. What did they do ?
11. What did they see inside the coffin ?
12. What did Huck do ?
13. Why did he say to Jim, "No time to lose!"?
14. Why did the king and the duke quarrel ?
15. How did the quarrel end ?

## CHAPTER XVII

mesmerize : control the actions of somebody by willpowers.

counterfeit : done in imitation of another.

doggery : a drinking saloon.

loafer : one who spends time idly.

bully : frighten or hurt.

providence : God.

hypocrite : one who falsely makes himself appear virtuous or good.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why did Huck feel uneasy when he saw the king and the duke talking in low tones ?
2. Why didn't the king come back till midday ?
3. What made Huck very unhappy ?
4. What did the boy on the road tell Huck ?
5. Why did Huck kneel down to pray ?
6. What did he write to Miss Watson ?
7. Did he send the message ?
8. What did Huck decide to do ?
9. Why did Huck think that he was a hypocrite ?

## CHAPTER XVIII

**smoke-house :** a room in a tannery where hairs are removed from the hides of animals.

**rolling pin :** cylinder of wood for rolling out dough.

**dough :** mixture of flour and water in a paste form.

**get aground :** touch the bottom in shallow water.

**waylay :** attack someone passing by.

## QUESTIONS

1. Who did Huck meet near the farmhouses ?
2. Who had sold Jim ?
3. Why did the duke want Huck to be away for three days ?
4. Why was Huck welcomed warmly by the white woman ?
5. Who was that woman ?
6. Why did Huck feel comfortable ?
7. Why did he feel uncomfortable at the same time ?
8. Why did Huck want to meet Tom ?
9. Write a short paragraph about Mr. Phelps' Farm.

## CHAPTER XIX

**stun :** shock.

**mysterious :** impossible to understand.

**stile :** means to enable persons to get through a fence but keeping cattle out.

**fumble :** use the hands awkwardly.

**Impudent :** shamelessly rude.

**scandalous :** disgraceful; shameful.

**straggler :** a person who drops behind while on the march.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why was Tom Sawyer stunned when he saw Huck ?
2. What did they decide to do ?
3. Why was Aunt Sally happy to see strangers ?
4. Who was Sid Sawyer ?
5. Why didn't Mr. Phelps allow the boys to go to the show ?
6. What did Tom and Huck do when everyone was asleep ?
7. Describe in a few sentences what happened to the king and the duke.

## CHAPTER XX

**in a detective fashion :** the way criminals are traced.

**dime :** silver coin worth ten cents.

**contrive :** find a way of doing.

**authority :** person with special knowledge.

**hitch :** fasten; tie up.

**battlements :** flat roof of a tower or castle.

**shin :** climb.

**moat :** deep wide ditch filled with water round a castle as a defence.

**pewter :** grey alloy of lead and tin.

**blister :** small swelling under the skin caused by rubbing or burning.

**pie :** meat or fruit covered with paste and baked in a deep dish.

## QUESTIONS

1. How did Tom find out that Jim was in one of the cabins?
2. How did Huck want to rescue Jim?
3. What did Tom say?
4. How did Tom want to rescue Jim?
5. How did Huck and Tom reach Jim's bed at night?
6. How did they make the witch-pie?
7. What did they send to Jim through the witch-pie?
8. Write a paragraph about Tom's plans to save Jim.

## CHAPTER XXI

**coat-of-arms :** pictorial design on a shield. (given to knights or noblemen in olden times)

**mournful :** sad;

**inscription :** words cut on a stone.

**forsake :** give up.

**fret :** worry

**grindstone :** stone shaped like a wheel used for sharpening tools.

**rattlesnake :** poisonous American snake that makes a rattling noise with its tail.

**plantation :** large estate.

**brewing :** forming.



## QUESTIONS

1. Describe the coat-of-arms suggested by Tom ?
2. Why did Tom and Huck bring the heavy grindstone to the hut ?
3. How did they mark out the inscriptions on the stone ?
4. How did Jim's hut become lively ?
5. How did Tom and Huck try to warn the people ?

## CHAPTER XXII

ooze : pass slowly through small openings.

splinter : sharp bit of hard material.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why did Tom and Huck have a look at the raft the next morning ?
2. Why were the people at home scared and worried ?
3. Why had the farmers come there ?
4. Why didn't Huck take off his hat ?
5. What did Aunt Sally say when she saw the butter on Huck's head ?
6. When did they escape ?
7. How did Tom make a noise ?
8. Write a paragraph about how Jim was rescued at midnight.

## CHAPTER XXIII

tremendous : very great.

alley : narrow passage between buildings.

singular : strange.

run into : meet unexpectedly.

## QUESTIONS

1. Why was Tom the gladdest of all ?
2. What did Huck and Jim decide to do ?
3. Why did Tom ask them to blindfold the doctor and make him swear to be silent ?
4. What did Huck tell the doctor ?
5. Did the doctor believe his words ?
6. Did Huck go with the doctor to the raft ?
7. What did Huck do ?

8. Who did Huck meet in the morning ?
9. What did Huck tell him ?
10. Why did Aunt Sally laugh and cry when she saw Huck ?
11. When was Tom brought to the house ?
12. Why didn't the men hang Jim ?
13. How did the doctor help Jim ?
14. Did the men give Jim any reward ?

## CHAPTER XXIV

anonymous : without a name.

## QUESTIONS

1. Did Huck tell Aunt Sally everything about the way they rescued Jim ?
  2. What did Aunt Sally say when she knew that they had set Jim free ?
  3. What warning did she give Tom ?
  4. What did Tom say ?
  5. Who came there then ?
  6. How did Jim become free ?
  7. How did Tom want to celebrate Jim's rescue ?
  8. Why did Huck want to go to the Territory ahead of the rest ?
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